

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

DISSENTING AUDACITY.

WHEN Oliver Twist "asked for more," Bumbledom went into hysterics on the spot. And little wonder. For the first principle, the prime indisputable assumption of Bumbledom, was that Oliver was an impertinence and a nuisance, an insult to the respectability of society in general, and of its parochial officials in particular. That he should be tolerated at all showed the magnanimity of the parish, a virtue perhaps strained too far, an amiable weakness it might be, but one that would not allow itself to be abused by audacious ingratitude. The spoonful of gruel doled out by public indulgence might preserve life, while it was fondly hoped that a sufficient degree of inanition would forbid presumption, and secure a gratitude duly humble. The unheard of demand for "more" disturbed the admirable balance of this arrangement; nay, it struck at the foundation of parochial institutions; and so, as Hosea Biglow would put it—

"Guess you'd fancy
The eternal bung was loose."

Now, so long as the ecclesiastical mind, in its thoughts of Dissent, assumed as a first principle that the latter was an impertinence, an abnormal excrescence on the symmetry of Christian society, we had no reason to be surprised if we were treated like Oliver Twist. In the course of an ineffectual controversy on education, when we were all a good deal younger than we are now, an eminent clergyman, appalled by the audacity of his "Dissenting brethren," was moved by indignation to cry out, "Gentlemen, you are tolerated. What more do you want?" And on his ground the indignation was perfectly natural. For if the Government has a right to "tolerate" us, we certainly have no right to ask for anything more.

We thought that the time for that kind of thing had gone by. But yet there is much in Parliamentary debates, much in platform oratory, and we regret to add, something now and then in the utterances of the Liberal press, which leads us to fear that the real meaning of our demand for religious equality is not yet understood. Even within the last fortnight the *Pall Mall Gazette* has discharged at us a mitrailleur of invective, and the *Spectator* has treated us to a mild expostulation, both of them taking the position that we really are going too far, and that this kind of thing won't do. Some wicked

people, it seems, have been asserting that Nonconformists don't like playing the pawn in the political game, to be used or exchanged as may seem best to the players on either side. The *Spectator* is good enough to be incredulous of the evil report; but "if it be true," there does seem to it "something very unreasonable in this state of mind." The *Pall Mall Gazette*, on the other hand—"when it comes to refusing that the service used at burials shall necessarily be religious, or, in other words, asking for liberty to make a political speech against the parson on what has been in a special sense his own ground"—cannot help opening the v. of wrath, and pouring out upon us a torrent of abuse, which in this mealy-mouthed generation it does us good to hear.

"It is the fault of the English Dissenters"—says our reprover, "if the increasing boldness of their language and policy forces dispassionate observers to inquire a little closely into the foundation of their now avowed claim to ride roughshod over the Established Church." There is a good deal in a picturesque and well-turned phrase. Only think now how tame, and—to use a good Lancashire word—how fashionless, this trumpet-like sentence would have sounded, had it ended with "their long avowed aim to disestablish the Anglican Church." But the phrase about "riding roughshod" is capital. It suggests the shock-headed son of the Dissenting butcher round the corner, basket on arm, mounted on his fast-trotting nag, on which he rides over and tramples into the mud some demure but aristocratic maiden on her way to early prayers. The Dissenters must have been doing something very dreadful to the Church to require such strong language as this. Yet to "dispassionate observers" it will appear that Dissenters have only claimed to treat grounds belonging to the "national" Church as national property, available for the reception of the nation's dead; and in doing so they have urged that no religious conditions should be attached. What new revelation of Dissenting depravity is here to move such anger in celestial minds? It has long been our aim—as might have been well known had we been thought worthy of attention—to enforce precisely the same principle in regard to all national property; while of course its detailed application must depend on the nature of the property to be dealt with. But as to churchyards, we only want to treat them as we treat all cemeteries which are open to the public.

Yet such is the fine frenzy of our contemporary that, surely with a little forgetfulness of *Pall Mall* manners, he flings out a question, "whether the influence of the Dissenters in the House of Commons is, or is not, like the influence of the licensed victuallers, or of the unscrupulous little band of malcontents united by dislike of the Contagious Diseases Act?" Perhaps our readers will be reminded of ecclesiastical documents in which the prevalence of dramshops and Dissenting chapels has been alleged as a local difficulty in the way of clerical usefulness. It is not quite so bad as that, however. It was impossible for our brilliant contemporary to resist the temptation to a comparison which might be peculiarly odious; but the point of the comparison is the suggestion that Nonconformity has won its influence in the House of Commons through "skilful electioneering practised by a compact minority voting steadily together." We had almost said, would to

heaven it were so! We venture to assure our critic that when our straggling army, now unconscious of its own strength, has been got into a little better order, and is a little more capable of "voting steadily together," he will see greater things than these.

But, says the *Pall Mall*, the suspicious thing is that Dissenters would not allow their strength to be ascertained. "While we were all asked at the last census whether we were lunatics or born idiots, we were not required to state whether we adhered to the Church of England or dissented from it," that is, we presume, whether we were religiously sane or insane. To our contemporary, evidently, the opinion that the Government has nothing whatever to do with our religious profession, and is impertinent when it asks about it, is "one of those things that no fellow can make out." Be it so. We do not know that it much matters. But there is surely something peculiar in the logic of the following sentence—"The plea of conscientious objection to the statement of individual religious belief might very intelligibly have been urged by a member of a Church pretending to be national or universal; but it was curiously inappropriate and idle in the mouths of bodies ecclesiastically organised on the principle of separation." Now we are not aware that it was ever proposed to ask for a statement of "individual religious belief" in any sense but that of attachment to a particular denomination or to none. And an objection to this, it seems, "might very intelligibly have been urged" by a man to whom it would have been simply like a profession of allegiance to a government which he owned; but it was "curiously inappropriate in the mouths of those" with whom it is an important principle that the State has nothing to do with their religion. Verily, if this is the sort of logic we have lost by our exclusion from the great national schools, we have not been so badly used as we had imagined.

We desire, however, seriously to call attention to the notion, entertained by some cultivated Liberals, of the basis on which the claim for religious equality should rest. "The empire of majorities has been set up," we are told, apparently with some ruefulness; and if the Dissenters were clearly a majority of the population, "they might claim to have the benefit of a set of considerations which have no necessary connection with reason or justice." No utterance which we have seen has made us more heartily congratulate ourselves that heads were not counted after all. So far as is in our power, we positively decline to have the great question settled on any other grounds than those of reason and justice. It is not to be carried by Dissenters in a body voting against Churchmen in a body. It is to be carried by the steadily growing conviction of the people of England, that not only legal rights, but national institutions and national property, belong to all our fellow-countrymen alike; and that so far as righteous laws can prevent it, no man should suffer either legal exclusion, or unjust expenses, or loss of privilege, or social contempt, because of religious profession, nor yet because of its absence.

"Is there anything so admirable," asks the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "in the peculiarities of the Nonconformist bodies that we should be in a hurry to make them universally characteristic of all Englishmen?" We take upon ourselves to answer unhesitatingly, No! But our con-

temporary would do well to remember that those "peculiarities" have been contracted in the school of oppression and wrong, of exclusion and contempt. There will be no "Nonconformist bodies," when all Churches are equal in the eye of the law. On the other hand we may fairly ask in words furnished to our hand, "Is there not one touch of vulgarity, not a trace of intolerance, not a suspicion of narrowness" in the wild talk we have quoted about a great question which demands serious handling? Is there no vein of quiet, unconscious arrogance running through the language of the best and noblest in the ecclesiastical caste? We are all wrong; wronging and being wronged. For the sake of the One Name which almost all of us bear in common, let us blot out the carnal ordinances which separate, and by God's grace make of twain one new English Manhood.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

A good and instructive discussion took place last Thursday upon the Table of Lessons Bill, for which the stationers and bookbinders are looking with anxious interest. Mr. Locke King began it by protesting against such religious questions being discussed by the House of Commons, and predicting that more alterations would soon be necessary. Mr. Henley wanted to know who had asked for it. Mr. Serjeant Sherlock also said it was to be regretted that such a tribunal as the House of Commons should determine such questions as this. The House, he said, consisted largely of Nonconformists, Catholics, and Jews, and yet they were called upon to decide as to the form of prayer which the Church of England should adopt. Mr. Gladstone equally admitted the unfitness of the House to discuss and modify a Bill of the character before it; Mr. Hope felt the position so much that he protested against any criticism of details; Mr. Candlish wanted to know how, as a Dissenter, to vote; Mr. Liddell thought the matter should be settled by Churchmen alone—and so on and on. The discomfort of Churchmen at being under the control of the State was never so clearly shown. There was even something like shame at their ignominious position. But the position was accepted notwithstanding, and the Bill went into Committee. No alterations were made in it, but a very serious one was attempted. Mr. Hardy wished that there should be a recital of the assent and approval of Convocation—a recital, it will be remembered, which was struck out in the House of Lords, the State having nothing to do with Convocation. This amendment was decisively rejected by 94 to 59, the latter figure representing pretty accurately the strength of the High Church party in the House. And so, by the help and consent of Nonconformists, Catholics, and Jews, the Lessons of the Church are allowed to be altered. That is to say, we have given permission to Episcopalians to make a little change in their public services. We hope it will do them good, and that the history of this Bill will also do them good. While this measure has been under discussion, the Free Irish Church, in Synod assembled, has legislated upon similar matters, and no man outside her pale has had a right to say "Yea" or "Nay" to any of her decisions. If Churchmen here want the same privilege, they must get it in the same way that the Irish Church has acquired her's.

Convocation naturally does not like being snubbed in this fashion. On the very day that the House decided to pay no attention to its claims, it was debating what should be done in the matter. Mr. Joyce made a motion upon the subject, which went through a keen discussion. The High-Church party were very sore about it. Archdeacon Denison denounced it as a shame and a dishonour, and declared very truly that it was turning Convocation into ridicule. Dr. Fraser regarded it as of grave constitutional importance. So it was decided that the fact should be recorded in the archives, and that the Bishops be requested to take some steps to secure the restoration of the words. The Bishops have received this request; but what are they to do?

Convocation has debated other questions—Marriage Laws, (Ecumenical Council, Revised Version, Sequestration, its own Reform, &c.; but as nothing that it does is operative, and as it is now universally conceded that it does not represent the opinions of the Church, we need not refer to them at greater length. Into contempt, however, as Archdeacon Denison declared, it has fallen, and therefore this is what the *Times* says of it:—

When the law is denounced and resisted, judgments

set at naught, courts stigmatised and defied, bishops warned that they will not be obeyed, Parliament charged with sacrilegious enactments, sufferers denied the relief provided by law, Convocation invited to insult those who had confided in its professed liberality, and itself finally proclaimed to require a complete reform, it is time to ask how long is this to go on, and whether the Church of England has not now a *gravamen* quite as serious as any propounded in Convocation. Nothing is more certain than that Convocation does not truly represent the tolerant, amicable, sober-minded, hard-working Church of England. It does the greatest injustice to the true feelings and the actual practice of that community. Not one hard-working parish priest in ten reads its proceedings without grief, indignation, and very desponding views as to the inevitable result. But it is positively unfair that the Church should be represented by a body which, by the very law and conditions of its existence, can only be a talking, protesting, whining, and pining body. Convocation is powerless as to act. The leading denominations of Dissenters have their respective head-quarters in the metropolis, where they can act as well as talk—where they can make laws and bind their clergy and their people as well. Convocation can only invent and utter grievances, and pass resolutions giving to sentiments the weight of a majority. That is a hard lot, and Convocation does not rise above it. There are persons who complain, and nothing more. They cannot do more, or it is not their way, or they have not the heart. Age, disappointment, poverty of spirit, constitutional weakness, are the usual excuses for a good deal of melancholy talk which gives no pleasure, and does not even pretend to do good, for it is a voice, and nothing more. Such is the case of Convocation. Surrounded by strong and bustling activities, next door to the most restless and powerful Legislation in the world, Convocation can only sigh and groan, mutter incoherent stories of wrong, breathe shapeless wishes, exchange barren sympathies, and utter idle menace, despised because never fulfilled. In Convocation they may say anything, and never be called to account. It is a hum of talk, and nothing more, just like the noisy warfare of bees, which the poet says a few grains of dust will put an end to. Of course, that is what the statesmen of the neighbouring Legislature have always in their mind; and no doubt the orators of Convocation are equally aware that anything like a real fire in their House will be instantly put out. But the sort of talk resulting from this entire immunity from practical consequences and checks is not to the honour or advantage of the English Church.

When, says the *Times*, in the above extract, "the law is denounced and resisted." This, as is notorious, has come to pass; but probably no one expected that two such men as Canon Liddon and Canon Gregory would unite to declare their deliberate intention of disobeying the recent judgment in the *Purchas* case. This is done in a letter to the Bishop of London, in which they aver that they are not bound to obey the State in such matters, but only the Church, and plead for the non-application of the law. One reason has reference to disestablishment, and is thus plainly put:—

When your lordship insists on the probable and possible evils of disestablishment, we sincerely concur, if not in all the details, yet certainly in the general drift of your observations. We have no wish to be misunderstood on this point. We, too, deprecate the violent convulsion which a rude severance of existing ties between Church and State would certainly produce. We are not insensible to the confusion and distress, to the wide-spread bewilderment, to the collapse, at any rate for a time, in all departments of Church work which would inevitably follow. But because we are thus alive to the grave evils which would accompany disestablishment, we cannot, and do not, shut our eyes to the dangers which are inseparable from the present state of things. We no more desire to promote disestablishment than does your lordship; but we venture to point out that if the eager political advocates of disestablishment, who are now almost entirely external to the Church, are not in the coming years to be reinforced from within her pale, all parties within the Church should be brought to share a conviction that there is no necessary connection between a maintenance of the Establishment, and a one-sided interpretation or harsh administration of the law in any one direction. With a policy of generous and large-hearted tolerance on the part of her rulers, the Church of England, we believe, contains forces which, by God's blessing, may render her not unequal to her great and difficult mission at this important crisis in the history of our country and of Europe. But a relentless enforcement of the recent judgment would really mean nothing less than a proscription under the forms of law of one large section of the Church, in order definitely to establish the party ascendancy of another; and it is, as we conceive, in the interests of the Establishment, and indeed of the future unity of the Church of England, that we entreat your lordship not to lend your high position and great personal weight to any proceedings capable of provoking disasters which all would deplore.

There are two sides to this, as Canon Liddon and Canon Gregory must be aware. It may be very well to say that it is the Bishop who precipitates disestablishment by obeying the law, but most people will be of opinion that it would be the two Canons who do this by not obeying it. They have no alternative but to obey their consciences, but has the Bishop any other alternative?

We are obliged to travel back at this point, once more, to the House of Commons, in order to refer to Sir John Lubbock's Endowed Schools Amendment Bill. Sir John Lubbock explained, in introducing it, that its main object was to repeal the religious clauses in the Act of 1869. Under that Act school endowments of more than fifty years' duration at the time the Act passed

could be subject to revision. He wished to make this a running term. If fifty years was a proper term in 1869, why should it not be an equally proper term in 1871? and why should it be fifty-two years then? He also proposed to repeal the clauses which exempted cathedral, collegiate, and denominational schools from the operation of the Act. His speech was an extremely able one, and abounded with illustrations of the abuses of endowments. Sir John Lubbock showed that the Legislature had already adopted the principle, and that the Government went even beyond it in a measure which proposed to give powers to the Charity Commissioners which would exceed any power that he asked for. The question, however, is certainly a difficult one, although there can be little doubt that in a very few years it will be decided in the way that Sir John Lubbock wishes. The right of men to devote their property for ever to any purpose that they may choose, whether it be or be not in harmony with the interests of the State, is a power which the State will, we imagine, very soon deny. It is an abuse of the old Roman law. The discussion upon Sir John Lubbock's Bill brought out some very clear thinking upon this question, and, unquestionably, to our mind, all the best thinking was on his side. Mr. Pease moved the rejection of the measure from purely denominational reasons, and it was ultimately rejected by a large majority—222 to 64. But it is a measure that will grow, and which ought to grow.

It is singular that the Endowed School Commissioners should have issued a Minute upon this subject at this very time. The Minute explains the principles or "general rules," upon which the commissioners propose to act. It recites that, in the judgment of most inspectors of schools and other persons, endowments have, for a long time past, been so managed as to be, in the great majority of cases, a drawback rather than a help to elementary education. The commissioners, therefore, propose to utilise some of the endowments. But how? In aid of school fees, of the Parliamentary grant, of subscriptions, or of rates? They have decided that they ought not to relieve either fees, Parliamentary grants, or subscriptions, and that saving the rates is not the appropriate function of educational endowments. They think that to use any substantial amount of endowment for the permanent discharge of the ordinary current expenses of an elementary school, will, as a general rule, be "more likely to injure education than to advance it." We are glad to see such healthy sentiments, but, at the same time, what is to be done with the money? It is proposed to apply it to buildings and fittings, so that schools may be started in their work with better advantage than at present. The commissioners have, therefore, already propounded schemes for devoting old endowments to sites and buildings for elementary education. They also propose, with regard to income, to provide free places and prizes, lending libraries, maps, and scientific and other apparatus, lectures, playgrounds, gymnastics, means of industrial instruction, and lastly, exhibitions. There are other provisions of which we need not take notice, but this is sufficient to prove that the wisdom and benevolence of our ancestors are not likely to be very much respected by the commissioners. It is not surprising that the *Globe* should write, "If this is not spoliation and undisguised robbery of charities bequeathed to the poor, we should like to be informed what would be?" Perhaps the *Globe* would devote to its original purpose the two charities in a parish off Aldersgate-street; one of which provides for the burning of heretics, and another for buying fagots for that purpose. These two charities, as an old churchwarden and present parishioner of that parish has informed us, are now annually spent in a good dinner, at which the rector presides, and of which the parishioners partake. Now, is it or is it not right, legally to interfere with the bequests of these "pious ancestors," and devote them to educational purposes?

We notice that "Union for Church Defence," is increasing. A very influential Church meeting was held at Norwich the other day, the proceedings of which have only just come to our hands, when the debate on disestablishment was very earnestly discussed by the bishop, canons, and others. The *Derby Mercury* also reports the formation of a Defence Society for Derbyshire, in the shape of a branch of the Church Institution. Dr. Lee, the secretary of the parent institution, who was the principal speaker, enlarged upon the activity and the efforts of the Liberation Society. Dr. Lee said (we quote from the *John Bull*):—

Such an organisation could only be met by a similar organisation. However anxious Churchmen might be

to defend the Church, they could not defend it by wishing; they must set to work to do it. The Church Institution, whose headquarters were at 25, Parliament-street, London, was established eleven years ago, and had hitherto watched the proceedings in Parliament for any matters connected with the Church, to give warning to Churchmen in the country of any measures detrimental to its welfare. It was now intended to extend the organisation in order that in every county they might be able to counteract the work of the Liberation Society. The Nonconformists were using every means to get hold of public opinion; Churchmen must do the same. At present Churchmen were able to counteract their influence, but if they went on quietly, it would be with the greatest difficulty that they would be able to oppose the attacks to be made on the Church. The Liberation Society had acknowledged that "the battle of the disestablishment had fairly set in." Since Mr. Miall's motion in the House of Commons, which was one step in the movement, the Society had held a meeting, at which they had passed a resolution to the effect that the result of the debate was the greatest possible incentive to their continuing to influence the public mind in this country. In order to counteract this effort Churchmen must speak out as an organised body. The Church Institution was not only an institution for Church defence, but an institution for Church reform. The executive committee had come to the conclusion that Church reform, in the proper sense, was the best means of Church defence. The question of disestablishment had assumed a position of national importance, and it was, therefore, evident that if Churchmen wished to withstand the attacks of the Church's enemies, they must unitedly put forth every effort.

There was more speaking of the same kind. But does it not strike these persons that the Church Institution has never yet done anything to stem legislation on behalf of justice, and that every motion which it has opposed has been carried?

A very different gathering has been held by the Church Union. That body held a meeting on the Tuesday of last week, when, first of all, it was announced in the report that the interference of the State with the Church "is hard to bear, and it has been borne patiently, but it seems now to be on the verge of reaching a point of oppression where resistance is more than justifiable, and obedience becomes almost impossible," and the following amongst other resolutions was proposed:—

Resolved, that the continuance of the union of the Church and State will be seriously endangered unless the inherent right of the Church of England as a spiritual community to declare and determine all matters and things affecting her doctrine and discipline, as the same is set forth in the Statute 24 Hen. VIII. c. 12, and acted on with more or less regularity from the days of the Heptarchy to the present time, recognised by the State as one of the fundamental principles upon which that union has been based.

The Rev. A. H. Stanton, one of Mr. Mackonockie's clergy, thereupon observed that if the resolution passed it would be "opposed to the views of those who, with himself, believed that all Church Establishments are wrong; that the union was at the bottom of all the tyranny and bloodshed which had taken place in the name of the Church. He spoke as a loyal Catholic, but as one who was disloyal to the Establishment."

The resolution was passed. Now, what will Mr. Stanton do? He asked farther on, if he was to leave the Church where was he to go? Has he, with those who believe with him, not yet learned the lesson that no man can take two steps at a time, and that if one step be taken rightly, the way is sure to be seen to the other.

A UNITARIAN MINISTER ON THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

A correspondent sends us the following extract from an address delivered by the Rev. William Gaskell, M.A., of Manchester, on Thursday, the 15th inst., before the Provincial Assembly of Lancashire and Cheshire, which consists of eighty-two ministers and fifty-nine congregations, and of which he is the President. The writer remarks that the views here expressed much more fairly represent the opinions of the denomination than those advocated in the London organ of the denomination:—

Next, he regarded as a sign of progress—though now he felt that he was approaching debatable ground—the feeling which was evidently gaining ground against the maintenance of a State-Church system. (Applause.) During the past year the Liberation Society had plainly been growing in strength, and was now spoken of with respect in quarters where a very short time ago it was treated only with ridicule and scorn. Anyone who considered the sort of reception which Mr. Miall met with in the House of Commons when he brought forward his motion must see that it was one which was surely and steadily winning its way. (Hear, hear.) Numbers in the Wesleyan body—which long lived in a kind of ecclesiastical concubinage with the Church—(laughter)—were going in decidedly for disestablishment, and even in the Church itself the feeling was manifesting itself that the connection with the State was rather a questionable good, and that the advantages obtained were bought too dearly when purchased with the loss of freedom and the obligation to take as right and true whatever Parliament decreed to be so. At one time he admitted he dreamed a dream—which some of his brethren were still dreaming—that the gates of the Establishment might be opened wide enough to admit all the differing denominations within its pale; and that Ritualist and Rationalist might lie down together. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He had, however, long since given up that idea as utopian, and had even come to think that such a comprehension would in some re-

spects be undesirable. (Hear, hear.) Be that as it might, he could not but regard it as a flagrant injustice that a particular denomination, and that the wealthiest of all, calling itself by a proud fiction the Church of England—(Hear, hear)—should be selected for ascendancy, and maintained in a great measure at the national expense, whilst poorer ones had to rough it and pay their own way. (Applause.) This, however, he could endure, if he did not believe that its connection with the State was in some respects, and those not of light moment, detrimental to the real interests of the Church. It was plain to see—too plain—that in many cases it had a tendency to weaken the moral integrity of the clergy; that it led them to trifle with the most solemn professions and to deal in paltry subterfuges and evasions, to be guilty of that miserable disingenuousness for which theologians had earned so bad a name, to cloak their convictions and even handle the word of God deceitfully, declaring that to be His truth which all the while they felt to be error. What, for instance, were they to think of the statement made a short time since by Dean Stanley in *Macmillan's Magazine* with regard to the Athanasian Creed, and something like which his father had made before him, that though it was still read in the service there was no one in the English Church who believed it? (Hear, hear.) He (the President) was fully convinced that if that Church was only liberated from State control, it would exert a much higher and nobler power than was possible for it so long as it continued in its present bondage. Now, instead of having to ask simply, "Is this true?" it was obliged, on every question of doctrine and discipline, to inquire, "How far will it bear examination by a secular court, acting under the authority of Parliament and the Queen?" Even strong Churchmen had borne testimony to the salutary effects which were following disestablishment in Ireland; and he felt persuaded that a similar measure would not be less salutary in England. To him it seemed a species of infidelity to suppose, as some appeared to do, that Christianity could not hold its own without the help of the State—(Hear, hear):—and as for the plea so often urged, that if the establishment was not maintained as at present our rural population would sink into a state of utter irreligion, he knew not how a direr condemnation could well be pronounced on the institution in question than the admission thus made, that, with all the means and appliances at its disposal, it had failed so entirely in calling out religious life in those whom it had had under its care, that, left to themselves, they would be content to let it die out altogether. With these views he could not, of course, do otherwise than rejoice at the feeling, which was steadily growing up, that religion should stand on its own ground, and at the prospect which seemed to be opening before them of a day when the present alliance between the powers civil and ecclesiastical would be dissolved and the happy consummation reached, if not of a free Church, yet of free churches in a free State. (Applause.)

CONVOCATION.

Both Houses of Convocation of the Province of Canterbury have been sitting during the past week. At one of the sittings of the Upper House the Bishop of EXETER presented a petition signed by more than 1,000 members of the Church—clergy and laity—in his diocese, praying that Convocation would authorise a hymn-book for the Church of England. The general feeling of the right rev. prelates was against imposing uniformity in the matter of singing. The Bishop of LONDON observed that they could not have liberty in their Prayer-book, but he thought they might in their hymn-books. Ultimately it was resolved unanimously, on the motion of the Bishop of WINCHESTER, to direct the Lower House to inquire and report on the subject.

On Friday the Bishop of WINCHESTER moved the following resolution:—"This House has considered a carefully prepared report on the remarriage of divorced persons, presented to it by the Lower House. This House deeply deploras the scandal and other evils arising from the frequency of divorce, and would highly disapprove any 'favour' being shown as alleged towards the remarriage of divorced persons which may have a tendency to encourage such evils. This House does not, however, possess any power of regulating the proceedings of the several bishops in the administration, through their courts, of their respective dioceses; but each individual bishop here present is ready to give his serious consideration to the grave subject which has just been brought before this House, and to communicate with the officers of his court thereupon, and so do his utmost to remove the evils of which complaint is made." The Bishop of LONDON seconded the resolution, which, having been fully concurred in by the Archbishop of CANTERBURY, was carried unanimously.

The Bishop of LINCOLN brought forward a declaration respecting the late Vatican or so-called Ecumenical Council. The declaration denied this council to be an Ecumenical Council, or the right of the Bishop of Rome to summon such a council. The declaration also set forth the right of the English Church and of all Churches in communion with her to the position of forming parts of the Catholic Church. The declaration was accepted, and the House adjourned.

Gravamina were presented in the Lower House on the subject of the Purchas judgment, but were not very favourably received, and a proposition to send them to the committee on gravamina was rejected. Archdeacon DENISON asked if Mr. Vance Smith was still a member of the New Testament Revision Company, notwithstanding the resolutions of both Houses of Convocation that he ought to be excluded. Nobody would admit that any resolution dealing with Mr. Vance Smith had been passed. Archdeacon RANDALL and Mr. JOYCE, the mover and seconder of the resolution which Dr. Denison referred to, rose and denied that the intent of the

resolution, as proposed by them and adopted by the House, was to exclude anybody. Archdeacon RANDALL added that he would rather see Mr. Vance Smith on the company than off. The question, therefore, led to nothing.

On Friday, after the presentation of a petition signed by 776 clergymen, in the course of which they expressed their unwillingness to do anything which may seem to concede the principle that the State may legislate for the Church in spiritual matters without the assent of Convocation, the following resolution was adopted:—"That it be an instruction to the Committee of Privileges to prepare a statement in reply to the petition, distinctly setting forth how far this House has sanctioned the enactments contained in the Table of Lessons Bill now before Parliament."

The question of copyright in the Revised Version of the Scriptures having been raised, Archdeacon DENISON took occasion to remind the House that he was the only member who held up his hand against entering upon the work. He held that Convocation was responsible for the work to which it had given its assent and its authority, and the result had been that it had had fathered upon it the ugliest child he had ever seen.

Both Houses of Convocation stand adjourned to August 2nd.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE.

There are several telegrams in reference to the celebration of this event last Friday:—

One from Rome, June 16, states that there the jubilee has so far passed off without disturbance. There have been public displays of the Papal colours. Foreign and local deputations have presented addresses and offerings to His Holiness.

From Brussels it is announced that the King and Queen have written a congratulatory letter to the Pope. On Sunday night there were immense crowds in the streets. A great number of houses were illuminated, as well as all the churches. An anti-Papal manifestation on a large scale was made, the crowd marching through the streets singing, and breaking the windows of some of the houses that were illuminated. The *Daily News* correspondent at Brussels says that the disorders originated with the clerical party. Sixty persons were arrested, among them being one of the officials connected with the cathedral. The Students' Club, where the Italian flag was exhibited, was attacked.

The populace of Madrid prevented all the illuminations which were to take place in honour of the Pope's jubilee, and stones were thrown at several balconies of houses.

Several European sovereigns have sent autograph letters to the Pope congratulating him on his jubilee. Queen Victoria's felicitations, it is stated, were sent by the telegraph, and His Holiness, by the same medium, conveyed his blessing to Her Majesty and the Royal Family.

The address from the Roman Catholic youth of Great Britain to Pope Pius IX., on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the Pontificate, had 90,000 signatures attached to it, and the amount of offerings to His Holiness was 3,200*l*.

In the Roman Catholic churches of London on Sunday there was a special service in honour of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the election of Pope Pius IX. Archbishop Manning preached at the Pro-Cathedral, Kensington. He reviewed the leading events of the last twenty-five years connected with Rome. The guarantees offered by Victor Emmanuel to the Pope he compared to the crown of thorns, the reed sceptre, and the purple robe of our Saviour. Referring to the Vatican Council, the Archbishop said that it was better that the Pope's infallibility had been defined after deliberation than that it should have been voted by acclamation. He spoke of Gallicanism as a thing now passed and gone, being destroyed by the Council. As for Liberalism, it was the elder brother of Communism. The Pope would ultimately triumph over the world, for he was the servant and witness of Him of whom it was said, "Sit thou on my right hand till I make thine enemies thy footstool." At the Italian Church, near Hatton Garden, the Archbishop again preached in the evening. In the latter part of the sermon he spoke of the special kindness with which the Pope treated English visitors, and of his ardent desire for the return of England to the Church.

The Pope's jubilee was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the Catholic Church throughout the United States.

It is stated that at the recent meeting of the English Church Union, Mr. Stanton, one of the curates of St. Alban's, Holborn, who lately denounced from the pulpit the "cursed State," urged the separation between Church and State, though other members, like Mr. West, endeavoured to restrain him. Mr. Stanton, finding that the meeting was not prepared to adopt the policy of Mr. Miall, threatened to leave the Union.

HARROW AND WINCHESTER SCHOOL STATUTES.—The Committee of the Liberation Society have passed a resolution expressing surprise that the Public School Commissioners should have framed statutes which exclude Dissenters from the governing bodies of Harrow and Winchester Schools—such exclusion being contrary to the principle embodied in the University Tests Acts. As the Government have just brought in a bill to amend the Public Schools Act of 1868, an opportunity will be afforded of raising the question in a practical shape. The committees of the Congregational Union and the Dissenting Deputies have also protested against

the new statutes—the resolution of the latter body appearing in our advertising columns.

THE UNIVERSITY TESTS ACT.—Elsewhere will be found resolutions of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society, which congratulate the friends of religious equality on the passing of this measure. Besides thanking the several members of Parliament whose names have been successively associated with the question, the committee express their appreciation of the courage and fidelity with which many members of the Universities have asserted the claims of Nonconformists in this matter.

PRESBYTERIAN DIFFICULTIES IN AMERICA.—The Presbyterian General Assembly has been trying hard to abolish the order of "stated supply," which is fast becoming more popular with the churches than with the presbyteries. Out of the 4,000 ministers of the Church, only 1,600 are settled pastors, while 1,100 are "stated supplies." Pastors are installed by consent and authority of presbyteries; but stated supplies are hired for a year or other period by the trustees of the local church, thus establishing an order of things independent of the presbytery.—*American Paper.*

APPLAUSE IN CHURCHES.—In Mr. Beecher's church applause has so often been given that it has ceased to be a novelty. But we hear of it now in many other places. Last Sunday afternoon, in preaching at the dedicatory services of St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church in this city, the Rev. Dr. Fowler, of Chicago, in his most eloquent vein denounced the encroachments of Romanism, and he was twice applauded by clapping of hands and stamping of feet, in spite of the sh-sh-ing of Conservative brethren. In the evening of the same day, the Rev. Dr. Jos. P. Thompson happened to allude to the same question; and, of course, spoke strongly and grandly upon it. His eloquence was too much for the decorous disposition of the Tabernacle congregation, and they manifested their approval by the most decided applause.—*New York Independent.*

THE BURIAL LAW QUESTION.—Last week a little boy, who had been killed by a railway accident, was buried in Droitwich churchyard, but as he had not been baptized, the clergyman of the parish would not officiate at the interment. Mr. Greaves, a Baptist, was therefore asked to conduct the service, which he did just outside the churchyard. In an address—which is reported in the *Bromsgrove News*—he exonerated the clergyman from blame, and spoke of him with the kindest feeling; but he thought it a strange anomaly in the Church of England that a clergyman should be almost compelled to read the burial service over a drunkard, or godless adult, and not be permitted to do so over an unbaptized child. He then read the Church Service in a solemn manner, and accompanied the mourners to the grave. There were a number of spectators, and throughout the ceremony the greatest order and decorum were observed.

THE CHENEY CASE IN CHICAGO.—The Chicago papers of the 5th inst. give long reports of the services on the previous day at Christchurch, in that city, the incumbent of which is Mr. Cheney, who has been deposed from the ministry of the American Episcopal Church for mutilating the baptismal service. The Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, the well-known Evangelical clergyman of New York, preached both morning and evening. His intention was known, and the bishop gave him formal notice not to take any part with Mr. Cheney, but Mr. Tyng disregarded the episcopal injunction. Mr. Cheney read the prayers at both services. At the evening service hundreds of persons were unable to get into the church. Mr. Tyng's sermon was on the case of the man mentioned by St. John, who was "cast out of the synagogue" for his adherence to Christ. He of course applied the subject to the position of Mr. Cheney.

ANOTHER BURIALS BILL.—Earl Beauchamp has presented a bill to amend the law of burials in England and Wales. It consists only of two clauses, the first of which provides that—

Any parishioner not entitled to burial according to the rites of the Church of England may be interred in the churchyard of the parish without the burial service of the Church of England, provided that the person having care of the funeral shall send notice to the officiating minister of the parish, and the interment shall take place according to the said notice, subject, however, to reasonable variation.

The second clause would enact that—

Any three ratepayers within a poor-law union may apply to one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and the said Secretary, after due inquiry, may, by an order under his hand and seal, require the board of guardians of the poor to provide one or more suitable burial grounds for the burial therein of persons with rites and ceremonies other than those of the Church of England, and the board of guardians shall thereupon provide the same, and shall have all the rights and duties of a burial board for the burial ground thus provided.

THE S.P.G. AND THE MADAGASCAR BISHOPRIC.—We learn from the *John Bull* that there was a large and somewhat excited meeting of the S.P.G. Board on Friday afternoon. The Rev. C. B. Dalton presided, and among those present were the Bishops of Madras and British Columbia, Bishop Staley, Lord Eliot, Canons Harvey and Trevor, Prebendary Kempe, &c. The question under debate was the best course to be pursued as to the Madagascar Mission. After a lengthy discussion it was resolved that the Primate's letter to the secretary should be read, in which his Grace stated that with every respect for the gentleman named to be priest in charge of the mission, he could not sanction his appointment, as it would not be satisfactory either

to the C.M.S., or the London Missionary Society. Thereupon the Rev. Berdmore Compton said the society was placed in a most painful situation, and he thought the only course combining respect to the Archbishop and the maintenance of the principles of the society in their integrity, would be to abandon further missionary work in Madagascar. He proposed a series of resolutions, but ultimately, after much discussion and several divisions, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting to Friday, June 30, when the whole matter will be considered.

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS QUESTION.—The following members (sixty-six, including tellers) voted in favour of the bill introduced by Sir J. Lubbock for repealing the clauses in the Endowed Schools Act which prohibit the Commissioners from interfering with the governing bodies of collegiate and University schools, and schools belonging to the Moravian and Quaker communities:—

Anderson, G.	Gower, Hn. E. F. L.	Salomons, Sir D.
Armistead, G.	Graham, W.	Samuelson, H. B.
Beaumont, H. F.	Gray, Sir J.	Sartoris, E. J.
Bonham-Carter, J.	Grieve, J. J.	Sealey, C. (Notts)
Brewer, Dr.	Harcourt, W. G. G.	Shaw, R.
Bristowe, S. B.	Hodgkinson, G.	Sinclair, Sir J. G. T.
Campbell, H.	Holland, S.	Smith, E.
Candlish, J.	Illingworth, A.	Strutt, Hon. H.
Carter, Alderman	Kinnaird, Hn. A. F.	Stuart, Col.
Cholmeley, Capt.	Lawson, Sir W.	Talbot, C. R. M.
Colman, J. J.	Leatham, E. A.	Taylor, P. A.
Cowen, J.	Lewis, J. D.	Tollemache, Hon. F.
Cowper, Hon. H. F.	Lush, Dr.	Vivian, H. H.
Dalglish, R.	Lusk, A.	Wedderburn, Sir D.
Davie, Sir H. R. F.	McLaren, D.	Whitman, J.
Davies, R.	Miller, J.	White, J.
Dickenson, S. S.	Morgan, G. O.	Williams, W.
Dilke, Sir C. W.	Muntz, P. H.	Wingfield, Sir C.
Dixon, G.	Price, W. E.	
Ewing, H. E. C.	Rathbone, W.	
Fawcett, H.	Richardson, H.	
Fitzmaurice, Ld. E.	Richards, E. M.	
Gurley, E. T.	Rylands, P.	

TELLERS.
Sir J. Lubbock
Mr. T. Hughes.

SOUTH ESSEX AND DISESTABLISHMENT.—As briefly stated in our last, Mr. Andrew Johnston, M.P., visited Rochford on Thursday week on the occasion of the meeting of the Essex Chamber of Agriculture. Some friends of Mr. Miall's disestablishment motion asked, on the previous evening, for an interview with the hon. member, in reference to his adverse vote on that motion. Mr. Johnston at once acceded to the request, and appointed three o'clock in the afternoon for the interview. Thus summoned at a few hours' notice, the meeting was a remarkable success. Twenty-three representative gentlemen from Southend, Rochford, Rayleigh, Prittlewell, and the adjacent farms and villages were present. A number of short speeches were made, chiefly on the practical working of Church ascendancy in the rural districts, and the "civilising influence" of the clergy, of which so much was made in the recent debate. The hon. member in reply said that the question was at present very far off on the political horizon. It would not come up for settlement for many years, and was therefore not one on which he felt called upon at once to make up his mind. There was, among those present, a strong expression of respect and attachment to Mr. Johnston, but also a strong feeling that South Essex Liberals, being nearly all disestablishment men, ought to have sent a disestablishment vote to the House of Commons.

A BEECHER ON A BAMPTON LECTURE.—The Rev. T. K. Beecher thus writes home:—"I spent last Sunday at Oxford. At half-past ten I found myself sitting with a troop of undergraduates in the gallery of the University Church—St. Mary's—waiting with them to hear a Bampton lecture. The organ played, and presently came trooping in, following two vergers with silver maces, the vice-chancellor, two or more proctors, and twenty or more doctors and other dons to occupy their reserved seats. Just when or how the lecturer (Curteis) got into the pulpit I did not see. First I knew of him, he was well on in his 'bidding prayer,' in which he exhorted us to pray for sundry and divers objects, Exeter College and John Bampton among the rest. The prayer reminded me strongly of the good deacon in Virginia who owned a slave, Bob, in partnership with his neighbour. He used to pray God to bless 'my half of nigger Bob.' So this Rev. Curteis bade us pray specially for his college, Exeter, and for John Bampton, generous soul, by whose will he, the lecturer, was to come into his fee this year—something more than one thousand dollars. The lectures this year are on the 'Phases or History of Dissent.' Recapitulating previous lectures of the series, he spoke with an assurance that delighted me of 'two pairs of separatists'—one pair he had already discussed, namely, 'the Congregationalists and the Romanists.' Is not that funny? An Exeter College fellow and a Bampton lecturer speaking of us Congregationalists and of the great Church of Rome as 'a pair of separatists'! The next pair, belonging to the seventeenth century, was—can you guess who? I gave it up; and he told us—Baptists and Quakers to be sure; the Baptists being 'Dissenting Ritualists,' and the Quakers 'Dissenting spiritualists.'"

CHURCH SCANDAL IN DOUGLAS.—On Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday last, the almost exclusive attention of the representative branch of the Manx Legislature was devoted to the consideration of measures for the removal of the scandal caused to the Manx Church by the continued closing of the largest church in the town of Douglas for over three and a-half years. This church (St. Thomas's) was closed in consequence of a dispute between the bishop of the diocese and the Vicar of Braddan as to who had the right of presenting thereto, and on the vicar threatening to inhibit the bishop's nominee, Mr. Dodd, of Warrington, and presenting his own son, the bishop withdrew his licence from the church (which was unconsecrated), and the same

was thereupon closed. Some time ago the bishop came forward and offered to withdraw all claim, on his own part, to making the first presentation to the church on condition that a bill was passed through the Insular Legislature erecting the church into an independent chapelry, with a district assigned thereto, and giving the first right of presentation to the Crown, and each succeeding right to the bishop of the diocese and his successors. A bill giving this proposal effect was accordingly introduced into, and passed, the Council (or upper branch of the Legislature), and was then sent down to the Keys (or representative branch) for consideration. In the meantime, however, a second bill was introduced into the House of Keys providing that the appointment should vest in whosoever was equitably entitled thereto, the claims to be either decided by arbitration before three English barristers, or before the Chancery Court of the island, with a right of appeal to the Queen in Council. The bill first taken into consideration was that vesting the appointment in the Crown, but it was rejected by 10 votes to 9. The second bill was carried clause by clause without opposition, but when it came to the final motion, "that this bill do now pass," it was found that there were only 10 members for the bill, while there were 9 against, and as by the standing orders no bill can be carried except by a majority of the whole House (13), the second bill shared the fate of its predecessor. Thus matters are exactly where they began, and the church bids fair to remain closed.

Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. Frederick Stephens, late of Croydon, has accepted an invitation to the pastorate of the church at Steelhouse-lane Chapel, Birmingham.

The Methodist Conference at Pittsburg refused by a large majority to authorise the ordination of women for the ministry.

Mr. Alexander Craib, student of New College, St. John's-wood, London, has received a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Wardlaw Congregational Church, Belgrave-street, Glasgow.

The Rev. C. Callaway, M.A., has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church in Wellington, Salop, in order to accept the post of curator and secretary to the Bradford Philosophical Society.

The successor of the Rev. James Parsons, as the pastor of Salem Chapel, York, is the Rev. John Hunter, of Spring Hill College, Birmingham. It is his intention to enter upon his duties on the 1st of October next.

SURBITON.—The Rev. William Jones, of Salisbury, has been chosen as the successor of the Rev. A. Mackennal, now of Leicester. He has accepted the invitation, and will commence his ministry at Surbiton on Sunday, the 9th of July.

THE PALACE GARDENS CHURCH, in the Mall, Kensington, as advertised in our columns for sale by auction, by Mr. Murrell, on the 14th inst., was sold for 5,250*l.* We believe it was purchased on behalf of the Swedenborgians.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, EAST COWES.—We are requested to call attention to the advertisement which appears in another column, relative to the alterations and improvements proposed to be carried into effect in connection with the above place of worship.

NEW CHURCH AT SURBITON.—On Friday the Baroness Burdett Coutts assisted at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new church in the Maple-road, Surbiton. Her ladyship was accompanied by the Hon. Miss Sugden and Miss Brown. A great many of the local clergy and gentry were present. The site was given by the Messrs. Coutts, and the building is estimated to cost 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.*

CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The autumnal session of the Congregational Union will be held this year at Swansea on October 9 and three following days. Dr. Edmund Pressensé is expected to be present. The business provided for consideration will be of more than ordinary importance, for the Revised Constitution, which could not be discussed in May, will be submitted to the assembled delegates for approval.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON is, we are glad to hear, progressing favourably, and should he continue to do so intends preaching on the first Sunday in July. A letter to the congregation was printed in the last issue of his sermons, in which he alludes to the "constant and affectionate remembrance" in which he holds his congregation, and expresses his faith in the efficacy of public and private prayer on his behalf.

THE AMERICAN CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION met at Boston on the 30th. The prospect of a speedy completion of the Congregational Home called out a great deal of enthusiasm. Rev. Doctors Webb and Kirk advocated the erection of a granite memorial to the Pilgrim Fathers, that should tower above Bunker Hill. Rev. Dr. Longworthy, the Secretary, reported a healthy treasury, but emphasised the fact that over one hundred thousand dollars must yet be raised before the Home can be fully completed.—*Christian Union.*

A GENEROUS CONGREGATION.—At the anniversary sermons at St. George's United Presbyterian Church, Blackburn, on Sunday, the collections realised 1,009*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* At the evening service the Rev. A. B. Grosart, pastor, said that, notwithstanding the efforts needed to realise that large and gratifying amount, the usual collections for the ordinary expenses of the church, &c., had been fully

maintained. Since January 1st they had realised by pew-rents, voluntary offerings, &c., 320*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, making, with that day's receipts, a total of 1,329*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* In three years the congregation have contributed nearly 7,000*l.* towards removing the debt on the church.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT ROCK FERRY.—On Friday afternoon the memorial stone of this new Congregational Church, which is being erected from the designs of Mr. David Walker, of Liverpool, was laid by Mr. David James. The Rev. Samuel Pearson, M.A., of Great George-street Chapel, delivered an address, and there was a very large attendance of Nonconformist ministers and laymen. The new church is in the Gothic style of the 13th century, and will seat about 750 persons. The total cost of the building and its attendant lecture-rooms, vestries, &c., including land, is about 6,000*l.*, two-thirds of which sum has been already subscribed, and it is anticipated that the balance will be realised by the time the church is ready for opening.

LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.—On the afternoon of June 15th, the Rev. Robert Moffat addressed the students of Lancashire College for nearly two hours, on the subject of missionary work. The Rev. Professor Scott, LL.B., occupied the chair. There were present, besides the students, the Rev. W. C. Russell, M.A., and several ladies. In the course of his address, Mr. Moffat described the condition of the Bechuana tribe at the commencement of his labours among them. The difficulties he had to overcome required no ordinary tact, courage, and perseverance. His well-known success as a missionary affords striking proof of his possession of these qualities in no ordinary degree. He found his present friends and converts with the merest rudiments of a language; he has left them with a grammar and dictionary of their native tongue. He taught many of them to read and write, and qualified some of them to teach others. He reformed their morals, subdued their passion for war, and introduced among them the habits and dress of civilised life. He gave an interesting account of the causes which led him first to turn his thoughts to the religious instruction and civilisation of the heathen. He still retains the enthusiastic regard for his work which led him first of all to devote himself to it. Towards the conclusion of his address, he referred to a subject which has long had a somewhat painful interest for the public—the probable fate of his relative and former fellow-labourer, Dr. Livingstone. Judging from his knowledge of the country, and the habits of the people, he gave it as his opinion, that the great explorer was still alive, though without the resources necessary to the prosecution of his journey, placing no confidence whatever in the report sent home by Dr. Kirk. He thinks it probable that Dr. Livingstone is at present under the care and protection of some friendly chief, only awaiting the supplies required for his further progress. In Mr. Moffat's opinion, therefore, we may look for Dr. Livingstone's safe return to this country. At the conclusion of the address, a vote of thanks was moved by Mr. A. Bell, B.A., and seconded by Mr. J. C. Nesbitt, which was heartily responded to by their fellow students.

THE PILGRIM FATHERS' CHURCH, SOUTHWARK.—The amalgamation of the Deverell-street and Backenham-square Churches into one community, designated as above, may now be regarded as an accomplished fact, the Rev. A. F. Barfield being the pastor of the united church. The Rev. Dr. Waddington is to have a testimonial of 500*l.* and a small annuity of 25*l.* secured to him. The committee say, "On many grounds, 'he is regarded as entitled to grateful and generous consideration, especially as his character is unimpeachable as a man of Christian uprightness and integrity; as he has often had to labour without adequate or expressed sympathy; and as, if leisure were secured to him, the peculiar direction of his reading and literary industry would give us, as they have already given, valuable additions to our Nonconforming and Congregational annals.'" Mr. S. Morley, M.P., has waived his claim to 500*l.* due to him from the building fund of the church, and heads the subscription-list with 400*l.*; other friends have added 200*l.* to the amount; and the Rev. T. Binney, who has taken a great interest in the enterprise, has prepared a plain statement of the case, with commendatory notes—of the testimonial projects from the City Chamberlain, Dr. Halley, Dr. Angus, Dr. Leonard Bacon, Dr. Raleigh, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Stoughton, Mr. Binney says:—"I can testify to the extent, the carefulness, and the patience of his (Dr. W.'s) researches at the Record Office, and elsewhere, for the purpose of collecting information as to the early history of Congregationalism. Toil of this description meets with little, if any, pecuniary recompense, and therefore it is only just that something should be done by Congregationalists to testify their appreciation of one who has worked so hard to illustrate their annals." The arrangement is also approved of by the Revs. Baldwin Brown, J. C. Harrison, Josiah Viney, J. De K. Williams, Henry Ward Beecher, George Orme, G. M. Murphy, J. Pillans, W. P. Tiddy, and W. Tyler; with Messrs. D. Pratt, Johnson, Wilson, and George Borwick, who promises to add 5*l.* yearly to the annuity as long as he (Mr. B.) lives. About a thousand pounds in all is required, and any friends to the fund who may not receive a circular may send any contribution to Mr. Binney or Mr. Barfield, the hon. secretary.

HUNSTANTON, NORFOLK.—The opening services in connection with the Union Chapel at this rapidly

rising watering place, twelve miles from King's Lynn, and now accessible from every part by rail, were celebrated on Thursday, June 15, and following Lord's Day. A place of worship here, other than the parish church (which is of high Ritualistic tendency) to which Dissenters and visitors could resort has long been needed. The difficulty in the case was the want of a site, the whole of the property belonging to—L'Estrange, Esq. But about two years ago the young proprietor of the estate, in succeeding to the patrimony, generously offered to grant a ninety-nine years' lease for a chapel, and three gentlemen in the neighbourhood were constituted a building committee, plans prepared, and the contract taken by Mr. Beeton, of Hunstanton, who has rendered most efficient service throughout. The stone was laid in September last by J. J. Colman, Esq., M.P., of Norwich. Pending the erection, service has been held in the large refreshment room of the Railway Station, which has been regularly supplied by several ministers of the district and various lay brethren, at which the attendance has been most encouraging. The schoolroom under the chapel was opened by a public meeting on Easter Monday, and service has been conducted there ever since. On Thursday week, the chapel was solemnly dedicated to God, on which occasion, the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., B.A., of London, discoursed to large congregations, in the afternoon, from Coll. iii. 11 and in the evening from Acts i. 11. Several neighbouring ministers took part in the services, viz., the Revs. J. Smith (Wisbech), and Carter (March), Independents, Rev. Mr. Ryan (Wesleyan); Rev. T. Osborne (Baptist). Between the two services a public tea was given in a large tent behind the hotel, to which about 250 sat down. After the evening congregation was dismissed, Mr. Hall conducted an open air service on the green facing the sea, which was again largely attended. The collections at the services were 21*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, independent of the tea, and donations of 12*l.* The services of Sunday, June 18th, were to be conducted by the Rev. Luke Wiseman, of London, one of the general secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and on the following Lord's Day, by the Rev. Henry Wilkinson, one of the secretaries of the General Baptist Missionary Society. The pulpit will be supplied by ministers visiting this health-restoring place during the summer months, and by laymen of various denominations during the winter seasons. The new place of worship will be a strictly Union Church of all Evangelical Christians. Too much credit cannot be given to the Building Committee, and other friends who have worked so indefatigably in the effort. The building is designed to accommodate about 400 persons. At the far end of the building is a platform, with a neat front, and capable of holding half a dozen persons, and for the accommodation of the congregation chairs are provided. The total cost of the building, preparing the ground, fencing, &c., will be nearly 1,000*l.*, towards which about half the amount has been raised. The trustees have been chosen in equal numbers from the Independent, Baptist, and Wesleyan denominations.

EAST DEVON ASSOCIATION.—The annual meetings of this association were held on Wednesday and Thursday, June 7 and 8, 1871, in the city of Exeter. The annual sermons were preached by the Rev. J. G. Rogers, of London, and the Rev. W. R. Noble, of Tiverton, in the new Congregational church. The meeting of pastors and delegates was held on Wednesday, and the public meeting on Thursday. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. G. Rogers, D. Hewitt, W. R. Noble, J. Bosworth, R. C. Hutchings, J. C. Postans, &c. The report, which was read by the secretary, the Rev. W. R. Noble, having dwelt on some matters of local interest, and shown the growth and gratifying progress of the association, the devoted zeal and labour of the evangelists, and the widely extended ground now occupied, directed attention to the subject of the "Sustentation Fund for the Congregational Churches of England." This had engaged the thoughts of the committee during the year, and the following resolution had been adopted:—

That this committee approves of the principle of the proposed Augmentation Fund; but on condition that in the details of arrangement, 1. Security shall be given for the appointment of only well-organised men as ministers. 2. The creation of little churches in places that should be affiliated with neighbouring larger churches shall be prevented. 3. That the discouragement of small churches in their endeavours to support their own ministers shall be avoided.

The subject of "Ministerial Ordinations and Settlements" recently discussed by the Congregational Board, also occupied attention, and a resolution was adopted determining to act upon the principle of the resolutions of the board, only adapting it to the local circumstances of the Devon churches. The importance of gratuitous lay agency within the radius of the several churches, in addition to the employment of paid evangelists, was earnestly insisted on as necessary to the accomplishment of the ends contemplated by county associations. The report referred in the following terms to the action of the Endowed Schools Act and Education Act:—

It is feared that the "Endowed Schools Act," when in full operation, will be prejudicial to the interests of Nonconformity. The coming generations of this country amongst the higher and middle-classes may, educationally and socially, be considerably affected by the Government scheme, and the endowments of past generations be made to subserve the purposes of an ecclesiastical confederation. Hence the importance of a clear, intelligent, and Evangelical enunciation of truth from all the pulpits of Nonconforming churches, and a faithful adherence to our distinguishing principles so far as those principles harmonise with the prac-

tice and teaching of Apostles and the early churches. Great changes probably await both the Church of England and Nonconformity, and it behoves the leaders of the latter as much as of the former to "consider their ways," and to be true and loyal to the banner under which they have enlisted. And whilst the "Endowed Schools Act of 1869" is likely to exert a powerful influence upon the wealthy and middle classes of the community, the "Elementary Schools Act of 1870" is highly calculated to operate most prejudicially upon the religious liberties of the poor, especially in rural districts. The so-called "Conscience Clause" is a mere sham, inasmuch as to use it, in a vast number of cases, would be to secure secular education and exemption from certain religious teaching at the cost of home, and comfort, and employment, and bread. Like an under-current of the ocean, it will silently but irresistibly draw its victims beneath the heavy surge and paralyse the functions of life. This is its tendency. In some measure to counteract it, we are loudly called upon to employ an agency that will bring the working and poor classes of our population to sound religious thought, to conscientious convictions, and to the possession of that living power of Christian experience by which they will be prepared to resist antagonistic influences, and to assert the rights of conscience against despotic priestism and sinister oppression, despite the sacrifices involved. Hence the importance of maintaining in the greatest possible efficiency our rural churches and their pastors, and of thoroughly working an evangelistic agency which, from house to house, shall sow the seeds of Christian truth and awaken the consciences of the people to a bold yet respectful stand in favour of moral right, social liberty, and religious freedom. Our aim, however, is not to proselyte, not to sectarianise, not to create a morbid bigotry, but to inform and Christianise the people, that they may become the devoted followers of the Lord Jesus themselves, and from conscientious convictions, at any cost, "train up their children in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it."

The meetings were of a very interesting character, and calculated to stimulate both ministers and people in the prosecution of Christian work.

Correspondence.

MISSIONS TO CHINA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The correspondence which has appeared in your columns on the Chinese missions is, to my own mind, deeply interesting and suggestive. As familiar, by report, with foreign missions and by experience with home missions, may I be allowed a word on the subject; the more so as our excellent friends Griffith John and G. M. Murphy are fellow labourers. I quite believe that, with a little explanation, their discrepancies will appear more apparent than real, and can easily be harmonised.

Now there are, for our present purpose, four parties to be consulted hereon—the Government of any country into which missionaries have gone, or contemplate going; the Church at home, and that Church's officials; the missionaries, and the people to whom the missionaries go; and the argument affects their several relationships one towards the other.

Our friend Mr. Murphy has very ingeniously compared in parallel columns Mr. John's statement of facts and arguments, and the statements and arguments of the Apostle Paul. I quite believe, I repeat, that these can be substantially harmonised. The spirit of persecution is confined to no country—to no people—it is inherent in human nature, till corrected by a purer influence; but is more or less restrained by various circumstances. We have, in our own land, at this moment, a large amount of opposition to Evangelical truth, on the part of some who would hinder the Gospel of Christ, and on the part of some of whom better things might be expected; but the strong arm of law, and the equally powerful force of public opinion in our favoured land, restrain, nay, forbid, active persecution. This persecuting spirit is not confined to the world, the professing Church largely having it in a variety of forms, more or less developed, and probably no denomination is wholly free from its baneful leaven. Our friend Mr. Murphy, in quoting three passages of Scripture, appears to me to have forgotten that if, in our Christian duty, we are overtaken by inevitable persecution, and are brought to the alternative whether we suffer or recede, we must not recede, but proceed, even if we suffer; yet to suffer gratuitously is uncalculated and unwise. The texts, quoted by him (Luke xxiii. 34; Acts vii. 60; iii. 17), are highly important; and when the principles involved are mastered, something important will have been gained on this mission question.

Now I hold—(1) That it is not intended to uphold Christianity, much less to propagate it, by fire and sword. Consequently, the complaint founded upon such an argument dies out. Nevertheless (2), neither missionaries nor tradesmen forfeit their civil rights by becoming servants of the Cross. (3) That it is quite true that our Master was put on the Cross, but that was brought about by the very fact just stated—of persecution by the then leading religionists of the land, and professing Judaists. (4) That in Acts xvi. 35–40 we have a striking proof of the fact that the Apostle simply availed himself of notorious Roman law in order to secure himself simple civil justice. (5) That the greatest favour of the missionary spirit does not of itself necessitate martyrdom. That the servant of Christ should be prepared for martyrdom we quite admit, for so the Bible teaches; but when

Our Lord said, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep among wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents, and innocent as doves," he plainly implied it was quite possible so to act, as not to provoke that which would bring down the consequences of persecution. (6) That to my surprise, this very act of Paul's shelter under Roman law was objected to recently, and that by one of no mean standing in the Church of God; but I judged then, and still judge, the objection was founded upon some disregard of the dictates of courtesy and common sense in handling the whole question; while the very remark sustains one's position that not a few leaders would either take a little part in persecution if they could, or, at least, would connive at those who would do that work, being "partakers of other men's sins." 7. That it is one thing to seek to propagate Christianity by fire and sword; quite another to employ the strong arm of law to protect those who simply and peaceably propagate by lawful means that which is an antidote to violence, treachery, robbery, and bloodshed. (8) That there is a wide difference between using the strong arm of law to give effect to missionary work, and securing the safety of those who seek, by appropriate means, to diffuse the Gospel. (9) That it is time enough to hinder or molest a brother when he has been guilty of some moral wrong.

Now, there seems to me much force in Mr. John's statement that any indication of British weakness or fear, or any disfavour shown towards English missionaries, perceived by the Chinese, will but encourage them to continue hostility; while so long as the missionaries confine themselves within their own sphere, —and I judge they have not committed themselves therein—they ought to fully realise the great benefit of British protection—yes, to the full, especially when, as now, treaties are sustained between the two Governments of Great Britain and China.

It is notorious that British power has been brought to bear over and over again in affording protection to the servants of the Lord Jesus in simply propagating Divine truth. I cannot but judge that such protection should be resolutely extended, not only in lands with which we are connected by political treaties, but also nearer home. The late excellent R. Cecil beautifully illustrates the difference between the craft of the Jesuits and the simplicity of Christian labour by mentioning this very country of China—saying that when the Chinese saw the gow-gaws of these Jesuits, they would not receive them, but that simple and pure Christianity commanded their attention, their reverence, and their complacency. In conclusion, I trust that this ventilation of an important question, induced by the present aspect of the Chinese mission, will have the effect of clearing away the mists ever prone to gather around such a subject; and that all concerned will be helped to discriminate between right and wrong; and that the aspirations you have expressed may be fully borne out by future experience.

Yours respectfully,

Plymouth, June 12, 1871.

THEOPHILUS.

THE BALLOT—BALL-VOTING.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

"A right abused becomes the most dangerous of wrongs."

SIR,—Seeing in your issue of June 14 a letter upon the ballot from Mr. North, of Oxford, will you kindly allow me space in the *Nonconformist* to say a few words in testimony of which he has put forth. Mr. North says he thinks the Government bill on the whole a very imperfect one, as it does not give inviolable secrecy to the voter. I give Mr. Forster all due praise for his stride in advance, and quite believe him earnest in the expression of his desire to make the bill a perfect bill, and one that shall ensure to the elector that absolute secrecy without which freedom of election is but a sham. The question, however, is, will it do this, and form a complete security from fraud or mistake? I doubt it. The ignorant voter, who can neither read nor write, must of necessity still be at the mercy of some one else to endorse his card or ticket, and the official stamp will but give to the vote, though perhaps not what the voter intended, the sanction of authority. It has been proved in France, in America, and in Australia, that card or paper voting has been so manipulated by various methods that the event at any election is very much at the mercy of unscrupulous agents, and that secrecy or security to the voter after the election has not been obtained. I am sorry to find our Liberal members hanker after a scrutiny when the election is over, as it only affords a lavish expenditure for the benefit of hungry lawyers. This is why they cling to paper voting. Our representatives seem determined to misinterpret what we ask. We ask for a secret vote, and they virtually tell us in reply that a secret election will answer our purpose quite as well.

Now, in voting with balls, the colours of the candidates, these objections vanish. All men know colours if they cannot read or write, and therefore cannot be deceived by the artful partisans of either candidate. But be it remembered (as Mr. North remarks in his letter) that in 1869 he applied to Lord Hartington's committee for permission to show his "Detector Ballot-box," and to explain its working to the members. But the committee declined to go into ball-voting. This decision I regret, as he could have shown them that ball-voting is our only security against fraud, and that it is far more simple and easy than paper-voting for the masses. Mr. Forster, when intro-

ducing the Ballot Bill into Parliament, made this declaration,—"That he entirely objected to machinery in ballot-voting." That objection was made, no doubt, as a sort of protest against ball-voting, which, to my thinking, was anything but fair or just. Mr. North is the patentee of the "Detector Ballot-box," and that declaration seems to me to shut him out entirely from being heard on this important question. Now in Mr. North's scheme, to which I wish more particularly to refer, not only does the ballot-box itself preclude fraud, but exposes the wrong-doer. Coloured balls is no distinctive feature of Mr. North's plan. But the appointment of an inspector to check the vote at the moment of reception is so effective, and yet so simple, I wonder it should not have been thought of before; the said inspector being so placed in a compartment at the polling-room or booth that he can neither see the voter or be seen by him, but, receiving the coloured balls as they are deposited in the box, can see on the instant if the voter has exercised his franchise honestly. If he has done so, he departs quietly as he entered; if otherwise, a signal from the inspector causes his detention. But the inspector, your readers will say, may be one-sided or act with partiality. This is prevented by the presence in the same compartment of a friend or representative of each of the candidates; so that the inspector is inspected, and all is conducted with the utmost fairness and impartiality. If any desire exist to favour a particular candidate, the power to do so is effectually barred.

Mr. Forster introduced his bill with a desire to give real and not a nominal secrecy or security. But every measure must be judged by its results. I would, however, urge upon the attention of members and electors alike, that with every fancied safeguard, card, ticket, and paper voting has been found ineffective. If voting by balls were adopted, and carried out according to Mr. North's admirable plan, I believe the question would be finally settled, while Mr. Forster's bill will, as I believe, after its efficiency has been tested by experience, require amendment. I cannot but congratulate those who, like Mr. North, have laboured against hope for the object now proposed. It is most pleasing to see measures of amelioration and improvement once deemed visionary or absurd or revolutionary, on the eve of completion; and the pioneers of the ballot may rest in hope that the stone once set rolling will not stay till it has reached the goal. Mr. North has devoted no small share of time, thought, and money to the perfection of his mode of taking votes by ballot, and I hope he may yet see his scheme carried out in its entirety. So very difficult is it to get men away from the usual grooves of thought, that until it is proved that ticket voting will not be effectual as a protection to the voter, ball voting, as here advocated, has no chance of receiving any, much less an impartial consideration. I hope the Ministry will stick to the Ballot Bill, and at least send it to the House of Lords. Whether, if their lordships reject it, they will show fight, is another matter. I have my doubts, but still Mr. Gladstone is a man who, when he does put his back to the wall, is hard to move, and Disraeli himself knows that, if he came in to-morrow, he could not govern the country for an hour. The Ballot Bill is just in that unsatisfactory state that it may be abandoned or amended so as to be shorn of all real secrecy. If Mr. Gladstone wishes the people to believe in his sincerity as a Liberal Minister, he will push the Ballot Bill to an early decision.

In conclusion, note what Mr. Childers says upon the question in a speech before the House of Commons. He would briefly state to the House the result of his experience of the working of the system of secret voting which had been established in Australia. The ballot had been introduced into that country as the best means of preventing that bribery, corruption, and treating which at one time had been exceedingly prevalent. It was, in short, a modified system of vote by ballot, under the operation of which every man's vote was kept secret until a committee composed of members of the Legislature had been appointed to make a scrutiny of the votes at a particular election, and then the way in which any elector had voted might, if his vote were objected to, be ascertained. Each of the voting-papers was signed on the back by the returning officer himself, and as each voter came up on the polling-day he was asked such questions as were usually put in this country in such cases, while the returning officer wrote down his number on the electoral roll. The voting-paper was then handed to him, from which he erased the names of those candidates for whom he did not intend to vote, and that having been done, the paper was placed, in the presence of the returning officer, in the electoral urn. If a petition was presented to the House claiming a scrutiny, either on the ground of bribery or personation, it was as easy to ascertain for whom the challenged voter gave his vote as under the system prevalent in this country. It had been in operation for nearly five years, only two cases in which petitions had been presented, and it was as easy to prosecute a petition under the Australian ballot as here. One of these petitions complained of treating, and in that case the member was unseated. Another complained of bribery: three voters were bribed, the charge was brought home with the greatest ease, and that member was also unseated. He must admit that the Australian ballot was not perfect; it had, unquestionably, its weak points.

Yours very truly,

J. J. MCCARTHY.

Leicester, June 17, 1871.

REPUBLICANISM IN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I avail myself of your permission to state, in two brief remaining letters, what I conceive to be some of the chief practical ends, on the attainment of which, through the legitimate working of existing institutions, the majority of the labouring classes may be reconciled to their unchanged continuance.

Recent remonstrances on the subject of dowry in the case of a Royal marriage, have made it evident that the costliness of maintaining numerous scions sprung from the monarchical stock, forms a secondary, if not a principal, objection to the continuance of that kind of Government.

Not less clear is it, that the unsatisfactory results to the community at large of the customary tenure of land, have quite as much to do with the growing disapproval of a territorial aristocracy as any theoretical preferences for a Republican equality, if not even more.

In the minds of the people themselves, however, and of those men of rank, talent, or learning, who sympathise with them in their wants, grievances, and sufferings, those measures of economy, reform, and alleviation, which immediately touch the condition of the millions dependent upon the labour of their hands, will always command most attention, and be best appreciated.

A few sentences on each of these three divisions.

1.—THE SOVEREIGN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The time for revising the cost of the Sovereign and of the members of the reigning House in their several branches and generations, will be on the next demise of the Crown; and for this, I believe, the most eager among us are ready patiently to wait.

The Civil List ought then to be reduced. That measure will be necessary, even on the lower ground of political expediency. The Royal House, if it cares for its royalty, has quite as much interest in the suggested curtailment as have the payers of taxes, down to the lately menaced makers of matchboxes. As often as this question has been agitated heretofore, the levathan incomes of such men as the Duke of Bedford and the Marquis of Westminster have been cited; and we have been told, that the Sovereign must have enough to prevent majesty from being outshone by mere nobility and private wealth. This argument, however, must be given up. For, if ever it had any real force, it has none now. The incomes which descend with titles and are derived from land alone, are, in the main, far surpassed by incomes made from trade; and, in his Budget speech, the Chancellor of the Exchequer alluded to one example of a colossal fortune, consisting, unless I mistake, mainly if not wholly of personal property, far transcending the richest real estate, and created in the lifetime of the testator, whose executors paid the duties on his will. This idea of rivalry must, consequently, be given up; nor can any time be imagined more opportune than will be the close of a protracted reign, during which the word debt has not once been named in reproach of the Crown. It is not possible, any more than it is becoming, to run a race of palatial splendour between Sovereign and subjects; and that it is not necessary for the purpose of keeping up the dignity of the Throne, the unshorn and unclipped rays of true majesty in the present reign have admirably demonstrated.

In any revision of the Civil List with a view to material reduction, the question of provision for the children and relatives of the Sovereign will have to be considered. For the princely establishments, and for the princely dowries, will have to be provided; but it will not follow, either in policy or in logic, that they must have more in proportion as their parent shall have less. The same modesty must characterise both. It happened that the popular dissatisfaction with the last royal marriage dowry and provision fell upon the Princess Louise; but much, perhaps most of it, was to be traced to the union of her three sisters with as many German Princes, one of whom was understood to stand very low in pecuniary worth, and into worth of any other kind I forbear to inquire. As a counterpoise to the cry raised against the dowry, Her Royal Highness has accepted the universal approval of her choice in giving her hand to the Marquis of Lorne; though, perhaps, the best recommendation of a match between a Queen's daughter and a subject's son, lies in the gradual subsidence which will follow, of royalty without prospect of a crown into the body of the community. Public economy must rule; and matches of this sort, which, while made with rank, will be made with wealth, will render it as easy as it is imperative.

2.—THE TENURE OF LAND.

On this difficult question, Parliament is not expected, by intelligent and thoughtful working men, to legislate as though a new planet had been launched into space and a new race of men landed upon it with a common permission to make the best of it. The land must be dealt with according to the proprietorships under which it is presented to us. To resume it in the name of the people or the State would be confiscation; and to inquire into the original titles by which it was first held, and in virtue of which it is come into the hands of the existing owners, whether by hereditary descent or by money purchase, would be both vain and futile; vain, because the inquiries could be often baffled; and futile, because, where wrong was done, retribution

could not be exacted upon the wrong-doers, and it would be palpable injustice to visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children; still more to punish present possessors for the unauthorised bounty of the first donor, they being no children of his; no, not even foster children, where the market price has been given for the soil.

Since, however, "at least in principle," to use the words of Mr. John Stuart Mill, "the country belongs to the whole of its inhabitants," their claim to consideration must be allowed. Neither confiscation nor any injustice would be done were the law or custom by which property in land goes down, in successive generations, to the eldest surviving son or nearest of kin, broken through and made illegal, or, at least, not binding, and every landowner left at full liberty to turn his estate into money without the consent of son or any man. On the contrary, true justice will never be done until every man be bound at his decease to divide what he has equally, or equitably, between his wife, if she survives him, and their children. The law which binds a father to maintain his offspring proceeds upon a principle which ought to govern his testamentary dispositions.

The principle in question, demanded by true morality, is equally sound and incumbent in public policy, and would be, both civilly and socially, highly beneficial.

Though I, for one, decline to go in for the positive resumption of the land into the hands of the State, my opinion is that the assertion of the right by imposition of and submission to a fair and reasonable yearly payment passing as between owner and tenant, would be a satisfactory way of settling the question, and would lay the foundation for a reconstruction of the whole subject of land tenure on terms and conditions which would not simply avert revolution, but would be quietly done, and with far more likelihood of general content.

But the State has much of the land, and may have much more. Moreover, it is, from time to time, parting with portions of the soil. We must, therefore, demand that all this shall for the future be done upon sound national principles, and not out of mere favour or caprice. Here the right of the nation must be, not simply affirmed, but maintained; respecting existing possession, as Mr. J. S. Mill allows, yet at the same time protesting against fresh gifts to persons already wealthy, and contending that, if gifts are made at all, those who get them should be the poor and needy. In general, there are three kinds of such property in land; commons, manors, and endowments. All three, there can be no doubt, may be treated as public property, whatever may be said of estates held by private persons. Commons lands, by mere force of their name, belong to the community. In respect of manors, lords and commoners, as law distinguishes them, are both concerned. Should the lord be called upon to retire, he must be compensated; and, in that case, the manor becomes practically a common. As to charitable estates, "it is now," observes Mr. Mill, "an admitted doctrine among Liberals, that endowments after a certain length of duration, are at the disposal of the State, which from that time should fix their destination."

In proportion, therefore, as commons, manors, and endowments in land fall to the disposal of the State, it may, without injustice or detriment to private rights, employ them for any good or moral use. And this view of the subject assumes great importance, whether we think of rural tracts or portions of the ground covered or comprised by London or other towns of considerable magnitude and population.

The third topic is reserved till next week.

Yours obediently,

GEORGE POTTER.

10, Bolt-court, June 12, 1871.

EASTBOURNE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Among your readers there must be no insignificant number who are well acquainted with Eastbourne as a sea-side resort, where they and their families have found bracing breezes, healthy homes, pleasant rambles, peaceful Sabbaths, and from which they have returned invigorated by nature's ozone, and other health-recruiting agents which are said to abound in this atmosphere. To this class of your constituency permit me to appeal.

A bazaar is to be held here in the month of August, by which its promoters desire to clear off a sum of £500, remaining upon the Congregational Church property. I have reason to believe that many visitors down here the last two years are preparing a few things for us; and I hope this letter may catch their attention.

All they can possibly gather up we are anxious should be sent in by the end of July; and if they will kindly forward a line announcing their purpose, it will be a help and an encouragement to the working committee.

This church was built for the purpose of accommodating visitors in the season, no less than with the view of establishing a permanent worshipping community. It has always leaned upon Christian friends living at a distance; and they have hitherto supplied a good proportion of its funds.

It is an easy matter for the large number of ladies who have worshipped with us in the summer months (let us say for the last three years), and of gentlemen, who are manufacturers, merchants, or tradesmen, to send us as many articles as could advantageously be exhibited at one time. And I believe the good will for such a performance is not wanting. But home claims in the winter, and local objects of charity, shut out Eastbourne from thought; or, at least, put it in the distance—out yonder on the Sussex coast.

I hope, however, the long days, and the bright hot

weather which is just coming, together with this appeal, will bring Eastbourne into vivid remembrance.

Friends, all, all remember us; remember August. Contribute something towards our bazaar. Intending visitors, send us a present, and we will receive you with all possible gratitude and kindness. Help us to have done with this debt this year. Sea-side visitors generally, for the sake of pleasant memories, and recruited energies, associated with your summer outings, lend us a little help this year. Look round upon your treasures; canvass your friends; speak to some of your tradespeople—to jewellers, cutlers, haberdashers, you know whom—and send us a contribution.

The time is short, but long enough for earnest love to accomplish wonders.

I am, dear Sir, in behalf of the bazaar committee, truly yours,

W. GRIFFITH.

The Manse, Eastbourne,
June 17, 1871.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday Lord CAIRNS brought in a bill enacting that in the case of any proceedings under the Landed Estates Court (Ireland) Act the rights of tenants under the act of last session should remain valid, although they might not be specified or referred to in the conveyance. For this measure, which is intended to meet the difficulty raised by Lord Justice Christian's decision, Lord Cairns received the thanks of the LORD CHANCELLOR, and it was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for Friday night.

UNION OF BENEFICES BILL.

The Bishop of EXETER moved the second reading of the Union of Benefices Bill, the object of which is to extend to all cathedral cities the Act of 1860, which enabled contiguous parishes to be united. Lord POWIS objected to the bill, as it would create pluralities without limitation as to the population of the parishes united. A small parish, he argued, did not necessarily imply a small congregation. He moved the rejection of the measure. The Bishop of LONDON approved the object of the bill, but doubted the wisdom of attaching it to the Act of 1860, which had been as unworkable as Lord Powis could desire. That act gave a veto to every party interested, and any one could either refuse his consent or make it conditional on extravagant terms. The recent Census had shown a large decrease in the City parishes, and in many the Sunday population was vanishing. Indeed, he was informed that in one the number of people who slept in it on the night of the Census was under a dozen. The unworkableness of the existing act had become such a scandal that its amendment must speedily be undertaken, and he could hardly recommend any extension of it in its present shape. The Archbishop of YORK supported the bill, deeming it especially applicable to York; but ultimately it was thrown out without a division.

THE SUPREME COURTS OF APPEAL.

LORD WESTBURY, in a characteristic speech, called attention to the scandalous arrears of appellate business before the Privy Council, there being now an accumulation of some 400 appeals. The promised law reforms of the Lord Chancellor had unfortunately passed into the limbo of the past; and if he were called upon to write their epitaph, he should inscribe in large characters the words—

Quærenda pecunia primum est,
Virtus post nummos.

"Virtus," in this case the duty of providing for the proper administration of justice, was by Her Majesty's Government placed post nummos. It was very painful to him to say anything against Her Majesty's Government; in fact, he frequently abstained from speaking in order that he might not fall into this, and it was only when goaded beyond the power of endurance that such remarks escaped from him. He appealed to the Lord Chancellor to introduce a bill within ten days for the purpose of constituting a tribunal in the manner proposed last year—viz., by adding to the Judicial Committee two judges from Westminster Hall, and by so constituting what he might call the Indian Chamber of the Committee that it might sit constantly until the great heap of business before it had been diminished to such an extent as to be manageable for the future in the ordinary way. If this were not done, he pledged himself to move an Address to the Crown on the subject.

The LORD CHANCELLOR could only say that the Government had done their best, but the pressure of business in the other House stopped the way of the necessary reforms. He hoped that by continuing the present sittings the arrears would be reduced. He undertook that steps should be taken to facilitate the hearing of Indian appeals.

At eight o'clock the House adjourned.

On Friday evening the Royal assent was given, by commission, to the Westmeath Coercion Bill and the University Tests Bill.

Earl GRANVILLE announced that the only English prisoner in the hands of the French Government—the boy who was caught behind a barricade armed with a pistol—had been released. Lord LAUDERDALE reopened the controversy about the Captain, blaming Mr. Childers for his minute, while Lord CAMPERDOWN defended the late First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Duke of SOMERSET, without going into details, contended that no man could be a fair judge in his own cause, and that was what Mr. Childers assumed to be. Lord Cairns's Land-

lord and Tenant (Ireland) Amendment Act, 1870, Amendment Bill was read a second time, and their lordships adjourned at eight o'clock.

THE DECLARATION OF PARIS.

On Monday, Lord DENBIGH, after inquiring whether the Declaration of Paris, 1856, was ever ratified by Her Majesty in Council, presented petitions from Manchester and other large towns praying for the resumption of the right to seize enemy's property in neutral ships, and to fit out privateers in case of war. Lord COWPER was of opinion that, although the Declaration was not ratified by the Queen in Council, we were in honour bound to observe it. In the event of war, whatever we lost as belligerents we should gain as neutrals. Lord MALMESBURY could not admit that the Declaration was of so sacred a character as a treaty formally ratified. Such a Declaration it would be impossible to maintain in case of war. Lord GRANVILLE pointed out that, if the Declaration had not been observed by France in the late war, her ships might have searched the whole of our mercantile marine to see if any goods belonging to Germany were on board. He protested against the doctrine that when international obligations became inconvenient they might be repudiated by a belligerent. The discussion was brought to a close by Lord COLCHESTER.

The Dogs Bill was amended in committee.

SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL.

LORD WESTBURY, in moving the second reading of the House of Lords' Appellate Jurisdiction Bill, drew attention to the fact that the appeals from Scotland during the last four years exceeded in number those from England and Ireland put together. The result was that, while important appeals from India and the colonies could not gain a hearing, no assistance could be given by the Law Lords to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, because they were condemned to listen to the most idle and frivolous appeals from Scotland, involving no important principle of law. Assuming that their lordships would come to the rescue of their own tribunal, he explained the remedies proposed by his bill, which limits the amount of property in question, unless the Court below should affirm that the case involved some important principle of law. He did not expect that the bill would pass this session, but if it were read a second time the legal profession and the public would have an opportunity of considering its provisions during the recess.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said that Lord Westbury had rather understated the extent of the evil, and he particularised three frivolous Scotch appeals which consecutively occupied the Law Lords, and in which the law costs were wholly disproportionate to the amount in dispute. To the second portion of the bill, giving the Court of Appeal below power to refuse the liberty of appeal to that House, he saw some objection. It was desirable that appeals should be as much as possible confined to the law, and should not include the facts of the case.

After a brief conversation, in the course of which Lord CHELMSFORD expressed general concurrence with the Lord Chancellor, and Lord COLERIDGE attributed the number of Scotch appeals, not to any excess in the spirit of contentiousness, but to the national firmness of character, the bill was read a second time.

LORD BUCKHURST moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the present state of the law with reference to the causes which operate in preventing the carrying out of an efficient system of vaccination, which was eventually withdrawn. Their lordships rose at ten minutes past eight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS ACT.

On Wednesday the House was mainly occupied by a bill brought in by Sir JOHN LUSBOCK to amend the Endowed Schools Act of 1869. The hon. gentleman in moving that it be read a second time said that the main object of the measure was to repeal the religious restrictions contained in the Endowed Schools Act. That Act was passed partly on account of the very great abuses which had crept into the management of endowed schools, but mainly because it was felt that the whole system needed revision, and especially that many of the smaller foundations might advantageously be combined together; that where several schools co-exist in one town, at present acting independently of each other, it was desirable that they should in some cases be united, in others be adapted to different educational grades, and occupy a definite position in relation to one another. Many schools, however, were excluded from the provisions of the Act. In the first place, the commissioners could only deal with any endowments originally given to charitable uses more than fifty years before the passing of the Act. They accepted the fifty years as a reasonable period, but they saw no magic in the year 1869, and they proposed to make the fifty years a running period, authorising the Commissioners to deal with any endowed school which had been in existence fifty years. If the limit was right in 1869, it must be right in 1871. He did not anticipate, therefore, that there would be much opposition to that part of their proposal. Clause 14, which they proposed to repeal, excluded from the operation of the Act all Quaker schools, all Moravian schools, all cathedral schools, and all

schools forming part of the foundation of any college in Oxford or Cambridge. As regarded the Quaker or Moravian schools, it was only fair to say that they heard no complaints of them, but they objected on principle that certain schools should be excepted, not because they were good, but because they belonged to Quakers or Moravians. Whether, however, those schools, or any of them, should on other grounds be excluded, was a question not of principle but of detail, and could best be discussed in committee. He passed on, therefore, to the next and most important provision of the bill. The House would remember that, by Clause 17 of the Endowed Schools Act, it was provided that the religious opinions of any person, or his attendance or non-attendance at any particular form of religious worship, shall not in any way affect his qualification for being one of the governing body of any endowment. But Clause 19 excluded from the operation of that clause all cathedral schools, and "all educational endowments the scholars educated by which are required by the express terms of the original instrument of foundation or of the statutes or regulations made by the founder, or under his authority, in his lifetime or within fifty years after his death (which terms have been observed down to the commencement of this Act), to learn or be instructed according to the doctrines or formularies of any particular Church, sect, or denomination." Now it was extremely difficult to ascertain whether a given school came within that clause or not. He was not on that point speaking without personal experience. Last session an address was presented to Her Majesty requesting Her Majesty to refer back the statutes of certain public schools to the Public Schools Commissioners, in order that the commissioners might apply that clause in framing the new statutes for those schools. To that Her Majesty graciously consented, and as one of the commissioners, it became, therefore, his duty to consider that matter. To take, for instance, the case of Harrow, it seemed to him that it was most difficult to decide whether it was covered by the clause or not. Nor was that by any means an exceptional case. He was informed that there were some scores of cases now before the commission as regards which two perfectly reasonable men might come to opposite conclusions, in many of which, therefore, undoubtedly, lawsuits would arise, the expenses of which would, doubtless, be paid out of the endowment. But, further, to bring a school within the clause the terms laid down by the founder must have been observed down to the present time. That was surely a most inequitable provision. While restraining the deliberate and well-considered action of commissioners carefully selected for their wisdom, their character, and their acquaintance with the position and functions of endowed schools, it not only absolved, but justified and adopted changes which had crept in through the negligence, the incompetence, and the *mala fides* of accidental trustees; it perpetuated the changes made through ignorance, neglect, or accident, while forbidding any alteration which was well-considered and adopted after mature deliberation. But where the operation of the clause was clear it in many cases led to very great inconvenience. For instance, Bristol had about twenty endowments, with an income, in round numbers, of 17,000*l.* a year. It would manifestly be very advantageous to bring these schools under one management; that would result in greater economy, greater harmony, and probably better management; but it was prevented by Clause 19. At Leicester, again, there was a very similar state of things. He would not weary the House with other examples, but would cite the opinions of three gentlemen pre-eminently qualified above all others to speak on that point—namely, Lord Lyttelton, Mr. Hobhouse, and Canon Robinson, the Endowed Schools Commissioners. Having quoted the authorities he had named, the hon. baronet continued:—Thus it would be seen that all three commissioners, not speaking, indeed, officially, but expressing their individual opinions, admitted the clause was arbitrary, inconsistent, and inconvenient; two of them wished to see it repealed, and the third, while approving the theoretical principle on which it was based, was unable to defend it on account of the great inconvenience it involved. They had it, then, on the highest authority that the effect of Clauses 14 and 19 was to exclude a large proportion of endowments from the operation of the act, and to that extent to leave matters as they were before the Endowed Schools Act was passed. What, then, was that condition? The Endowed Schools Act was passed because that condition imperatively required a thorough change.

Mr. HUGHES, in seconding the motion, said that after the admirable speech which they had just heard, he would not trouble the House with more than a few words. Testators ought not to be permitted to tie up their bequests for a longer period than fifty years, and after the expiration of that period the State ought to have power to deal with them. The exemption of these denominational endowed schools from the Endowed Schools Act of 1862 was a great blot upon that measure, and ought to be removed.

Mr. PRASE rose to move that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The chief objection which he had to this bill was that it proposed to deal with the Endowed Schools Act, which was the result of a compromise, and which had been accepted as a final settlement of a most vexed question, in which both sides of the House had taken a very warm and decided interest. The argument of the hon. baronet would go to the extent of prevent-

ing all endowments for the future. The peculiar class of endowed schools with which the hon. baronet proposed to deal were, as far as educational matters were concerned, actually within the scope of the Endowed Schools Act, the governing bodies of such schools alone being exempted from its operation. The hon. member referred to the case of the admirably-conducted Quakers' School at Ackworth, in Yorkshire, and pointed out how unfair it would be if, at the end of fifty years, that school, which had been founded and endowed by a denominational body for denominational purposes, were to be confiscated, and thrown open to the members of all denominations in the United Kingdom. To adopt such a course would be to violate the principles laid down in the report of the Endowed Schools Commission, in which it was declared that denominational schools belonging to a living denomination ought not to be interfered with. These schools were, as a rule, admirably managed, and every minute detail connected with their income, expenditure, and management, was published every year, and laid before the members of the denominations to which they respectively belonged. The scheme contained in the hon. baronet's bill would work badly, would be found to restrict rather than extend the operation of the Act it was intended to amend. If denominational endowed schools were to be brought within the operation of the Endowed Schools Act to the extent desired by the hon. baronet, a certain day ought to be fixed for that change to be carried out generally, instead of such schools being allowed to drop one by one at the expiration of the fifty years of their existence. It would at any rate be advisable before passing such a measure as this for Parliament to wait and see whether the schemes to be proposed by the Endowed Schools Commissioners under the Act were acceptable to the country. The hon. member concluded by moving that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. GOLDNEY looked upon the introduction of the bill as a misfortune. If passed, it would alter the whole machinery and scope of the Endowed Schools Act, and would lead to general confusion. He seconded the amendment.

Sir J. HANMER supported the amendment. So far from extending, as the bill proposed, the powers of the Endowed Schools Commissioners, he would rather restrict them. He had no doubt that great good would be effected if the Endowed Schools Act were carefully and judiciously administered, and he thought they should rest contented with it.

Sir C. ADDERLEY also opposed the bill. It was quite uncalled for, and would indiscriminately sweep into one scheme endowments—such as those of the Quakers and Moravians—which were virtually private property. The repeal of the 19th Clause of the Act of 1869 would secularise all the schools of the kingdom; and if the principle of the bill were affirmed, it would strike a blow at all testamentary dispositions of property for educational, religious, and charitable purposes.

Mr. WHITEHEAD believed that the fifty years' limit was a compromise, and that arrangement ought not to be upset. The House had not sufficient experience of the working of the Act. In many agricultural districts and many small towns the people were not yet sufficiently educated to draw fine distinctions between property left for charitable uses and private property, and when they saw endowments handed over to a body of gentlemen sitting in London who were practically irresponsible (Mr. Forster: "No, no") they would imagine that the rights of property were not very sacred. The right hon. gentleman denied that the commissioners were practically irresponsible, but a scheme proposed by the commissioners became law if there was no discussion on it in the House within forty days after it had been laid on the table, and what sort of opportunity had the House had this session of discussing a scheme proposed by the commissioners? (Cheers.) If the commissioners were not practically irresponsible, let the right hon. gentleman give the House a day for discussing a scheme proposed by the commissioners. (Cheers.)

Mr. BERESFORD HOPE, having served on the committee on the Act, wished to confirm the statement that the 13th and 19th Clauses were the result of the compromise. The hon. gentleman opposite said no endowments were made in favour of any particular class of science, and why should there be any endowment in favour of any particular religion? The answer was, science must in the nature of things be progressive; but every religious body that had faith in its creed believed that the truth of it was everlasting. If this bill became law, in twenty-five years, if he were still alive, he might find the school which he had founded, and which was the main interest and pleasure and duty of his life, taken away from him.

Mr. ACLAND, as one who had served for three years on the Endowed Schools Inquiry Commission, and had also been a witness of the fair and conciliatory conduct of the members of the commission, wished to say a few words on this question. He hoped the hon. baronet, who no doubt had brought forward this measure with the best intentions, would not press it to a division. The hon. baronet had not made out any case for alteration, nor had he shown that the commissioners were impeded in carrying out the Endowed Schools Act by any exceptions which stood in their way. He knew personally that the proceedings of the commissioners, so far from exciting that alarm which a preceding speaker had stated, had been received in that part of the country which he represented

with the general concurrence of all parties, among whom he might mention the bishop of the diocese, the Earl of Devon, and the right hon. baronet his colleague (Sir Stafford Northcote), as well as many other gentlemen who had long attended to their duties as trustees of schools. Some sixty trustees meeting round a table had reasoned themselves into approval of the Act of 1869, and had agreed to accept the scheme of the commissioners. It appeared to him that all that had been said by the hon. baronet was in favour of the act of two years ago, and that this bill would give the commissioners no assistance whatever.

Mr. WHEELHOUSE opposed the bill.

Lord E. FITZMAURICE said that the principle which lay at the root of the measure was one which of late years had been repeatedly acted on in that House; it was the principle of dealing with corporate property for the public benefit. That principle lay at the root of the Irish Church Act, of the bill which his hon. friend proposed to amend, and of the measure for the abolition of University tests which was about to become law. He could not understand how it came to pass that the hon. member for Durham, who had voted for the University Tests Bill and all kindred measures, now lent his voice against this. Generally speaking, the bill seemed to be opposed by those who knew very little of its contents; it was simply designed to treat the schools of Quakers and Moravians in the same way as the Endowed Schools Act treated every other school; in fact, it proposed to remove the exceptions which had improperly found their way into that act.

Mr. FORSTER stated that there was a marked difference between the University Tests Bill and this. The one proposed to give to the whole community that which was national, the other proposed to make national that which belonged to a particular community. In considering the Endowed Schools Act of 1869, Parliament came to the conclusion that there were certain schools which did not belong to the public, and that it would be unfair to give those schools to the public. Passing to the bill of his hon. friend, he said the commission would rather be hindered than otherwise by any change in the term of years, because an amendment in this direction might necessitate a supplementary arrangement in the case of constitutions agreed on this or last year, and as the bill was designed to carry out a temporary arrangement, it was advisable to adhere to the original date. The exceptions the bill proposed to repeal were the cathedral schools and the schools of Quakers and Moravians, and it also proposed to withdraw one or two schools connected with the Universities from interference with the governing bodies. His hon. friend had said he was astonished to find these schools were exempted from the act; it was his statement, however, that was surprising, because these schools were not exempted, and if the schemes prepared by the commissioners were approved the constitution of the governing body would be entirely altered. The case for excepting the Quaker and Moravian schools was clear. A school mainly supported by subscriptions from an existing body for the education of members of their body, but which happened to have some endowments added to it, should be allowed to remain in the hands of that body. It would be unfair to put it under a governing body not composed of the members of the body for whose benefit it was intended; it would be unfair to oblige the Quakers' schools to receive among its governors those who were not Quakers. It was upon this principle that Parliament acted in dealing with the Endowed Schools Act. As regards the cathedral schools, he denied that the conclusion arrived at was a compromise. An alteration had been made in the original bill, but it was made in the direction desired by the hon. baronet. As originally introduced, the bill excluded the cathedral schools altogether, but an influential deputation interested in these schools desired that they should be included, not because they wanted the government taken from the Dean and Chapter, but because they wanted the assistance of the Government and the Commissioners to help them in improving the education given at these schools. Their desire was complied with, and that assistance had been given. His hon. friend objected to the term by which schools are defined in section 19. He could not uphold the definition as perfect, but it was agreed on after much discussion. The proposal of his hon. friend to refuse to acknowledge the right of a man to make endowments for the special instruction of a special part of the community was not in accordance with his notions of justice; the principle involved in such a proposal was very different from that involved in the Endowed Schools Act. The promoters of the legislation of 1869 found that there existed throughout the country a vast number of public school endowments intended for the public which were either misused or altogether taken from the public, and they wanted to see that they were used aright in the one case, and given back to the public in the other. This was very different from taking endowments not intended for the public at large and handing them over to the public entirely. His hon. friend and he had a common object, and that was to get an effectual reform; but he asked his hon. friend whether, on grounds of prudence, it was wise so shortly after the commission had been set to work to alter the law under which they acted. (Hear, hear.) The commissioners were now deciding very important questions, as to how far certain sections should go, and it would be most unwise to alter the terms by which they had been guided hitherto. Besides the inconvenience to the commissioners, a change after so short a time

would detract from the stability of the measure and the respect with which an Act of the Legislature should be regarded.

Mr. VERNON HARCOURT said the speech of the Vice-President was an excellent one, but it would have been more consistent if it had come from the Opposition. (Cries of "Oh!") Hon. members cried "Oh," but, unfortunately, it was too true that speeches from the Treasury bench of late were usually applauded by the Opposition. That was their experience last session, and that accounted for the not very encouraging condition of the Liberal party in the country. How did his right hon. friend say these exceptions came in? he regretted to hear that it was in order that the bill might pass unanimously.

Mr. FORSTER said he had spoken of the "concessions," as the hon. and learned member described them, as a just arrangement, and had remarked that, in consequence of that just arrangement, the bill passed unanimously.

Mr. VERNON HARCOURT had understood his right hon. friend to say that these concessions had been made as a matter of prudence. The theory that you could not deal with endowments which were destined for a particular portion of the nation was entirely untenable. The true principle was that while you did not allow any individual to affect private property beyond a limited period after his death—namely, a life in being and twenty-one years afterwards—you should adopt a similar rule with regard to property destined for charitable and religious uses, and say that such property should not be tied up for ever, regardless of what changes might meanwhile be made in Church and State, but that the uses for which it was destined should be liable to review after the lapse of fifty years. (Hear, hear.) That was the principle of the Act of 1869, and the principle was as sound now as it was then. A founder ought to be presumed to desire that his endowment should be as useful fifty years after his death as it was at his death. At the latter period he might be the best judge of what was best, but he could not be the best judge fifty years afterwards, and it was not to the advantage of the public or of any class of the community that you should stereotype for ever the ideas of a person who lived fifty years ago. The hon. member for the University of Cambridge had called upon the House not to shake men's confidence in posterity and in the fixity of endowments. After what had occurred within the last few years the hon. member must have greater faith than a grain of mustard-seed, or else that faith must have been sorely shaken. But he was not surprised at the line taken by the hon. member for the University of Cambridge. What surprised him were speeches from the Treasury Bench, which, if one shut one's eyes, might be supposed to come from the other side of the House. ("Hear," and a laugh.) "Give us a little rest," said the hon. member. Such an appeal from a Conservative was natural. The Conservatives were the party of rest, and it was a good thing that there should be such a party. (Hear.) But the Liberals did not profess to be a party of rest: they were the party of progress; and it was remarkable, therefore, that Liberal members should be lectured by a Liberal Government and told that they should rest and be thankful for measures passed some years ago. (Hear, hear.) The tactics of the Ministry seemed to be these:—When a considerable measure was under discussion, they told Liberal members below the gangway—"Better take what you can get. You can amend the Act afterwards. For goodness sake, don't divide now!" Afterwards they said, as in this case, "Don't disturb the settlement!" In that way all the principles of the Liberal party were disappearing. No doubt the supporters of the bill would be beaten. But they would be beaten in asserting the true principles of the Liberal party; the time would come when those principles would be accepted and acted upon by the Liberal party in Parliament. ("No," and "Hear, hear.")

Mr. HARDY hoped that when the time came for the Liberal party to assert these principles, the Pope of the Liberal party, who had just pronounced so spirited an allocution, would be at the head of it. (Laughter.) It was not for him to defend the Treasury Bench from such attacks, but the hon. and learned gentleman had made a number of assumptions which seemed open to considerable doubt. Like some other gentlemen, he said, "we the Liberal party," as though the country was at his back. This reminded him of the answer made the other day by a child at one of the London schools. The child was asked where the wind came from, and at first replied, "From the country," but immediately afterwards said, "From the windmills." (Laughter.) In the present instance the windmills fancied that they were the country, and that the wind all came from them. The hon. and learned gentleman had sent a great blast against the Treasury bench. Now, when was the principle admitted that if somebody below the gangway on the Liberal side had a certain opinion, and some Minister ventured to differ from him, the latter must be selling himself to the Conservative party? He did not understand the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Forster) to admit that he had made any concession in 1869. On the contrary, he said it was not a bill of compromise, but a bill of justice, and that it wanted no amendments. (Hear, hear.) Was it to be endured for a moment that enormous schools like those of Mr. Woodward, established for the benefit of a particular class as defined by their religious creed, should be subjected to changes in their governing body, upon the constitution of which the

whole scheme was based? (Hear, hear.) As to the limit of fifty years, did the hon. and learned gentleman want this country to be governed by a perpetual commission, going about seeking what it might devour, after a foundation had lasted fifty years? Such a proposition was absurd and irrational. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. RATHBONE said the reason he supported the bill was because it would effect an improvement, the need of which had been practically experienced, particularly in the case of many of the smaller endowments throughout the country.

Sir J. LUBBOCK, in reply, said he was informed by those best qualified to form an opinion that there was no large town in which these endowments existed in which the inconvenience of the clause now sought to be repealed was not practically felt. As to large schools like those of Mr. Woodward, they would not be touched by the bill. He believed the time would come when the principles of this measure would receive the full support of the Liberal party.

The House then divided.	The numbers were—
For the second reading	... 64
Against it	... 222
Majority	... 158

The bill was therefore lost.

The short remainder of the sitting was devoted to a discussion of a bill brought in by Dr. Lush for amending the Medical Act of 1858, chiefly by reducing the members of the Medical Council to twelve, partly elective and partly nominated, and by establishing a single examining body, instead of the nineteen now existing. Dr. Brewer, Dr. Brady, Mr. Jessel, and Sir J. Gray made some remarks, and Mr. FORSTER promised that the Government would consider the subject next year. The bill was then withdrawn, as was also another bill introduced by Dr. Brady for the same object.

The Ecclesiastical Titles Act Repeal Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

On Thursday Mr. GLADSTONE intimated that he should move the appointment of a select committee to inquire whether and how the plot of land on the Thames Embankment between Whitehall-place and Whitehall-place should be acquired for the inhabitants of the metropolis.

Mr. BRUCE (answering a question from Mr. COLLINS) withdrew the Charity Commissioners Bill, and Mr. CRAWFORD gave notice of his intention to move an address, praying Her Majesty to disallow the Emanuel Hospital Scheme.

THE ARMY BILL.

The House went into committee on this bill. On Clause 7, which transfers the Militia and Volunteers from the Lords Lieutenant to the War Office, Mr. CARDWELL was subjected to a brisk fire of questions from Lord ELCHO, Sir E. COLEBROOKE, Sir M. H. BEACH, and others, as to the future arrangements of the Militia, and some doubts were expressed as to the wisdom of severing the local influences secured by the present system. Mr. CARDWELL replied that the Lord Lieutenant, as a rule, would be consulted, and that every care would be taken to keep up local connection. He promised too that commanding officers should be consulted on the appointment of adjutants, and gave other explanations so generally satisfactory that the clause was agreed to without opposition. The remainder of the bill, expurgated in accordance with the plan announced by Mr. CARDWELL on the preceding Monday, was passed through committee with no opposition more serious than occasional criticism.

PRAYER-BOOK (TABLE OF LESSONS) BILL.

The House having resolved into committee on this bill,

Mr. LOCKE KING rose to move that the chairman do leave the chair. A committee upstairs would be a much better place to discuss amendments on a religious question like this than a committee of the whole House. It was said that the bill had come from a Royal Commission, but it had done very little, and, moreover, this was a mere fragment of what it had recommended. The Commission showed all the weakness of compromise, and that House, also, was expected to show its weakness by accepting the compromise. That the Government should undertake a small bill like this was by no means satisfactory. If they passed this bill they would soon have another disturbance with regard to the Prayer-book, and then another Commission. There was a great deal of sentiment connected with the Prayer-book. It was more than 200 years since it had been disturbed in any way, and if they were now to make any alterations, let it be done in such a way that those alterations would last at least for two or three generations.

Mr. BRUCE thought the objection ought to have been taken at an earlier stage, because it was an absolute objection to the measure. (Hear.) The Government felt that, had they attempted more than was contained in the bill, it would have been impossible to carry any measure, certainly during the present, and perhaps in any future session. There was such a diversity of opinion on other points referred to the Commission, that it was impossible to say that the views of the Church outside this House had been clearly pronounced respecting them. Under those circum-

stances the Government had to consider whether they would act upon this portion of the report of the Commission, or abandon altogether the hope of legislation; and they believed that though, among 20,000 clergymen, it was impossible to expect unanimity, the bill represented the general feeling of the clergy. These proposed changes were referred to the Universities and to various persons of authority in the Church. Finally, they were considered and adopted by Convocation, although a difference of opinion occurred there; and while Convocation was, perhaps, an imperfect representation of the Church, it was the best we possessed, and he did not know what other steps could be taken to ascertain the opinion of the Church. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HENLEY would not say whether the change was a good or a bad one; but who asked for it? What petitions had been presented in its favour, except from printers who would profit by it? Look at the tens of thousands of people whose minds, by this change, would be disturbed. God knew we were disturbed enough already in going into churches. Constant novelties there hindered us from knowing whether we stood on our heads or our heels. (Laughter.) But this bill would make confusion worse confounded. Nor did this matter stand alone. The Convocation of one of the provinces of their own book had chosen to set to work upon the Bible, so far as he knew, without authority from anybody. Who could tell at the end of seven years how much of the Bible would be left?

Mr. BUXTON, having served on the commission, though not on the committee, said it was impossible that any body could be appointed, more entitled to the respect and confidence of the country.

Mr. MONK said that in some respects he did not think the new Lectionary an improvement on the old one. Many of the Lessons were seriously curtailed, and in some cases six or eight verses were substituted instead of a whole chapter. As to the alleged assent of Convocation, did that body really represent the Church of England—laity as well as clergy? Let Convocation first of all reform itself, and then the House would be able to leave the consideration of these matters to it. (Hear, hear.) If the bill passed a serious tax would be imposed upon 13,000 or 14,000 parishes which were now bound to provide prayer-books of a large size for use there, and how was this money to be raised, now that Church-rates were abolished?

Mr. Serjeant SHERLOCK said it was to be regretted that such a tribunal as this House should be called upon by way of appeal to determine questions in which a large number of members took no interest whatever. The House of Commons consisted largely of Nonconformists, Catholics, and Jews, yet they were called upon to decide as to the form of prayer which the Church of England should adopt. (Hear, hear.) He did not think that House was a proper tribunal to decide whether or not certain portions of the Apocrypha and certain books of Moses were to be read, and the Church of England would have acted more wisely by submitting the matter to some domestic tribunal of its own. (Hear.)

Mr. GLADSTONE said that though the hon. member who last spoke argued that there was incongruity in submitting to an assembly like the House of Commons the consideration of such bills as the present, yet it should be remembered that in the history of this country that anomaly had been cured by the good sense exhibited in the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) It had been urged that it would be better for the House to decline altogether to deal with the bill, and perhaps it would if every member were determined to attempt to patch and cobble it in detail, irrespective of the high authority arrayed in behalf of the measure. Like the right hon. member for Oxfordshire, he should have been perfectly content to leave to other generations the consideration of this matter—(Hear, hear)—but when the right hon. gentleman inquired who asked for this change, he must reply that a considerable number of persons of great authority had desired it, and the appointment of the commission was in conformity with the general opinion of the country. Convocation, the commission, and the House of Lords had given their assent to the proposed change, and it could not be said that if those bodies had a defect it was of a reforming or radical character. (Hear, hear.) He had felt the responsibility of shaking, as the right hon. gentleman said, the minds of the people, and that was one of the motives which induced the Government to take care not to commit themselves to a share in such a work as the present until it became obvious that the measure was desired by public opinion. The right hon. gentleman referred to the inconvenience of the change of one calendar for another, but the Government thought it would tend to promote harmony if a considerable period were allowed for the adoption of the proposed alteration; and it never was intended that there should be a continual movement backward and forward from one calendar to another. Upon the whole, this new calendar had been favourably received by the country, and it was with that belief that it was now proposed, and not from any impatience to change the existing form of service, which years of use had endeared to so many persons. Nevertheless, after all those bodies he had referred to, possessed of great authority in the matter, had assented to the contents of the bill, he thought that no sufficient reason had been shown why the House, though modified in its constitution in recent years, should decline to accept a measure of this kind; for the House had on several occasions dealt with measures affecting the temporal and spiritual

arrangements of the Church. He admitted the great unfitness of the House to discuss and modify in detail a bill of this character, but that did not constitute a reason why, as a legislative and deliberative assembly, it should withhold its general assent to a measure which had undergone great consideration, and had received the assent and approval of a large body of the community interested in the subject. (Hear, hear.)

Lord SANDON wished to ask whether by accepting the legislation that was proposed by the Royal Commissioners on this point the committee would be precluded from subsequently dealing with their other recommendations. The hon. member for Gloucester had cast some aspersions on the conduct of the Royal Commissioners, but if he took the trouble to read the *résumé* of their report that had been prepared by one of their number, he would feel that their recommendations were worthy of of the consideration of all thoughtful men. In the first instance, he was of opinion that it would be well to leave this matter alone; but having since had the opportunity of very carefully considering the subject he had come to see the immense superiority of the new Table of Lessons over the old one, and he should be loth to stand in the way of the adoption of so great an improvement. The Government had already made a concession as to the liberty to be granted to clergymen with respect to the use of the new lessons in proposing that no one should be obliged to read them until 1879; but it would be more in accordance with the present state of public feeling if that liberty were extended for an indefinite period, and clergymen had the alternative of using either the old lessons or the new ones. He could not consent to the doctrine that the representatives of the United Kingdom were not interested in the settlement of matters concerning the Church in this country, for it was of great advantage to the Church to elicit the opinions of Nonconformists, since by that means light would be thrown on some of its difficulties.

Mr. BERESFORD HOPE assured the House that this matter had not been slurred over by the Royal Commissioners. The revision of the Table of Lessons was one of the objects committed to them, and it was not for them to inquire whether there was a demand for it. If it approved itself to the common sense of religious people, the new Table would gradually and peaceably take its place, without the parishes being put to the expense supposed by the hon. and learned member for Gloucester, since any parish could for a penny buy a copy of the Act which would contain the Table of Lessons.

Mr. CANDLISH remarked that since the Prime Minister had deprecated discussion on the details of this bill, on the ground that the House was unfit to deal with them, it was fair to presume he was really opposed to it. But how were Dissenters to vote upon the question. [An hon. member: "Walk out."] Dissenters believed that civil government had nothing to do with the inside of a Christian Church; how, then, could they do otherwise than vote with the hon. member for Surrey? The Prime Minister knew that the feeling for disestablishment was growing rapidly. (Cries of "No.") He knew that ninety-one members had voted for disestablishment, and that should not be lost sight of. ("Question.") It was the question; because, as he believed, the civil power had nothing to do with the inside of a church, it was his duty to vote for the amendment, and, as the Prime Minister must know disestablishment was near at hand, and that when the Church was disestablished the Church would be able to deal with the Prayer-book as it pleased, he urged him to do the same.

Dr. BALL intended to support the Government, but protested against the doctrine that the House should take the bill as the Government had chosen to alter it. He objected to giving parties in the Church an opportunity of setting up this or any other shibboleth. This proposal was a pure invention of the Government, unsupported by the House of Lords, Convocation, or the Commission. The Prime Minister had said he wished to ascertain the opinion of the people upon the subject, but no steps had been taken to do so, and it was most impolitic to allow the opinion of the people upon such a subject to be developed in the midst of schismatic contentions.

Mr. LIDDELL thought these questions ought to be settled between the members of the Church of England, and that they could never be settled until the constitution of the governing body of that Church was revised in accordance with the feelings of the people of this country. He was not aware that public opinion was in favour of change, and he believed it would create doubt and difficulty in the minds of the laity.

Mr. GRAHAM believed it was not the duty of members who did not belong to the Church of England to walk out of the House, but to vote on this question according to their conscientious opinion. The Prime Minister had said that the bill must be accepted in its entirety upon the authority simply of Convocation and the Ritualist Commission. He (Mr. Graham) could not admit that any such bodies had any right to dictate the formula according to which the people of this country were to worship God. No more unchristian principle could be asserted than that these formulas should be imposed upon the people by the votes of political parties. He could not support this bill, especially as it provided that that should be read by the public as God's Word which he did not believe to be God's Word.

Mr. BRUCE said the bill provided that Lessons

from the Apocrypha, to which the hon. gentleman who had just spoken objected, should not be read. The Government did consider whether the time had arrived for making any proposals on those matters on which differences of opinion existed among the commissioners, and the opinion of the Government was that such time had not arrived. But it seemed to him that at no distant time the Church might find the means of arriving at something approaching unanimity on the disputed points.

Mr. NEVILLE-GRENVILLE entirely agreed with the hon. member for Glasgow, that neither he nor any member of the House should walk out on this or any other occasion. (Laughter.) With reference to the observations of the hon. member for Sunderland, he wished to remind that hon. gentleman that twenty-six years ago the Dissenters' Chapel Bill was brought into the House at the instigation of the Nonconformists, that it had to meet a narrow sectarian opposition, but that the majority of Churchmen in the House supported the Dissenters on that occasion; and he thought the Dissenters would do well to support on this occasion a question which had been thoroughly sifted by the Church authorities.

Mr. D. DALRYMPLE said he had taken great pains in examining the new lectionary, and unhesitatingly declared that the old one was the better of the two.

Mr. ILLINGWORTH said the hon. member for Sunderland only desired to extend to the Church the same liberty which Parliament conferred upon the Dissenters twenty-six years ago. It had been said that the duty of Parliament in regard to this question was to confirm the decision of Convocation, but to this he strongly objected, for this, if for no other reason, that, so far as he had been able to ascertain, Convocation could not be said in any adequate way to represent the opinions of the great mass of the lay members of the Church of England.

The committee divided, and the numbers were—
For the motion ... 39
Against it ... 204
Majority against ... 165

The motion was, therefore, negatived.

Clause 1 was then agreed to. On Clause 2 Mr. HOLT read the first of a series of amendments, the object of which was to provide that both the old and new table of lessons should be inserted in the Prayer-book. Eventually the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. BALL moved to omit the figures "1879," and substitute "1873," making the bill, in matter of time, the same as it had come down from the other House. Mr. GLADSTONE said that the alteration in date had been made after a careful investigation of the state of public opinion on the matter through the bench of bishops, who were in favour of the adoption of the terms in the bill. This amendment was withdrawn and Clause 2 agreed to.

Mr. HOLT moved to insert in page five, line six, after "minister," the words, "but whensoever a lesson is appointed taken from the 'Apocrypha,' the minister may, at his discretion, substitute a chapter taken from the canonical books of the Old Testament." Rejected by eighty-one to seventy-one.

In the question that the preamble be agreed to, Mr. G. HARDY moved an amendment, showing that the bill had been framed with the assent and approval of Convocation. Mr. GLADSTONE said the reference to Convocation had been struck out by the House of Lords on technical grounds, with the consent of the spiritual peers, and therefore the House could not do better than accept a conclusion arrived at under such circumstances. Sir ROUNDELL PALMER supported the amendment, and stated that nothing would have induced him to vote for the bill had it not been for the fact that Convocation, which, however imperfect in its constitution, was actually the representative of the Church, had approved the measure. Mr. BOUVIERE could not admit that Convocation was the legal representative of the Church of England while Parliament existed and the Sovereign remained the head of the Church. Convocation represented the clergy. Mr. HENLEY wished to know whether the House knew as a fact of that which it was asked to introduce into the preamble officially. Mr. BRUCE said he had official cognisance of it, but that it had not been communicated officially to Parliament. Eventually the amendment was rejected by 94 to 55, and the preamble was then agreed to.

The Charity Commissioners Bill was withdrawn, and the Intoxicating Liquors New Licences Bill was read a second time. The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to three o'clock.

THE REPORT ON PUBLIC BUSINESS.

At the day sitting on Friday, it was proposed to consider the report of the Committee on Public Business which sat early in the session. It was intended that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should move three resolutions, providing that strangers shall not be excluded except upon a motion put and carried, that when the House meets at nine p.m. after a morning sitting there shall be no count for half an hour, and that on Mondays there shall be no motions on going into Supply; but it was understood that the last would not be pressed that day. A preliminary objection, however, to their discussion was taken by Mr. BENTINCK, who complained that sufficient warning had not been given of the intention to take this business that day, and he was supported by Mr. BOUVIERE, Mr. COLLINS, Mr.

Beresford Hope, Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, and others. The SPEAKER, on being appealed to, ruled that there was no violation of the technical rules in the short notice which had been given, and Mr. GLADSTONE defended the action of the Government on the ground of the pressure of time, pointing out that two of the resolutions were entirely in the interest of independent members. Ultimately the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER consented to postpone the resolutions until Tuesday, but held out very small prospect of taking them then.

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

In committee of supply a number of Civil Service votes were passed. Mr. BAXTER gave a general assent to the objections raised by Mr. Craufurd and Mr. McLaren against the system of branding herring barrels through the agency of a Government office. Mr. RYLANDS moved the rejection of the vote for Queen's plates in Ireland, as they had been got rid of in England and Scotland. This drew an indignant protest from the Irish members, Sir P. O'BRIEN urging that the plates did good by giving the people "a horsey turn." Mr. LOWE maintained that the Government were perfectly consistent, inasmuch as they had consented to omit the vote for the Scotch Queen's plates, because the Scotch members wished them to do so, and they proposed to retain the vote for the Irish Queen's plates in deference to the wishes of the Irish members. Mr. KINNAIRD was astonished to find the right hon. gentleman resorting to such a low subterfuge. Mr. DONSON having decided that it was unparliamentary to charge a member with having recourse to a low subterfuge—(great laughter, and cries of "Lowe")—Mr. KINNAIRD explained that he had applied the expression to the right hon. gentleman's argument and not to himself. The right hon. gentleman was totally incapable of being low. On a division, the vote was passed by 133 to 75.

LOTTERIES.

At the evening sitting on the order for going into committee, Mr. CHARLEY moved that the provisions of the Lottery Acts ought to be impartially enforced by the Government against illegal lotteries, irrespective of their objects, in all parts of the United Kingdom. Mr. BRUCE contended that the Government had a discretion in the matter, and that there was a rational distinction to be drawn between lotteries got up for mere purposes of gain and those which were got up for the purpose of promoting a good object. In cases where the object was clearly bad he instituted a prosecution at once, but where the object was not bad he acted by giving a warning in the first instance, and prosecuting only in the event of that warning not being heeded. The amendment was lost by 60 to 33 votes.

THE LICENSING QUESTION.

Sir L. PALK raised a discussion on the Licensing System, by questioning Mr. Bruce as to the character of his new Licensing Bill. Though regretting that the Government bill had been withdrawn, he held that it was utterly impossible to pass it as it was introduced, and pointed out the great injury caused to existing interests by the present uncertainty. Believing competition to be the great evil, he was for dealing with it by adopting a portion of the Permissive Prohibitory plan, and allowing the ratepayers to buy out the existing houses. He would also give power to the licensed victuallers to diminish the number of houses through a fund obtained from the licences.

Mr. BRUCE declined to give any intimation of his intentions with regard to the licensing part of the subject, except that he was willing to learn by experience and to receive suggestions from any quarter. If he had an opportunity this session, he would go on with the regulating part of the bill. In reply to Sir L. Palk's criticisms on his measure, Mr. Bruce expatiated on the extreme difficulty of the subject, and much as he regretted the injury to property from uncertainty, he regretted still more the fate of those who were suffering in their morals and their social position by the present position of the licensing laws.

Sir H. SELWIN-IBBETSON advised that the subject should be dealt with as a whole.

Mr. STAVELEY HILL thought Mr. Bruce's answer extremely unsatisfactory, and Mr. HARVEY LEWIS impressed on him that the ten years' clause, if repeated, would be fatal to any measure, and Mr. LOCKE deprecated precipitation. Mr. CROSS doubted whether drunkenness could be extirpated by Act of Parliament, and trusted more to the improving habits of the working classes. Sir W. LAWSON bore testimony to the honest and earnest attention Mr. Bruce had paid to the matter, but impressed upon him that no bill would excite enthusiasm in the country which did not give the ratepayers the power to close public-houses. Before the subject dropped, Mr. J. Lowther, Mr. Wheelhouse, Mr. R. Fowler, Sir H. Hoare, and Mr. J. G. Talbot tendered their advice to the Home Secretary, chiefly warning him against a policy of confiscation.

On the motion of Mr. GLADSTONE, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the appropriation of the land on the Embankment reclaimed from the Thames.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at five minutes to one o'clock.

On Monday, in reply to Mr. P. A. Taylor, Mr. BRUCE said that the only recognition of the right to abstinence from labour on Sundays rested upon the Act of Charles II. In the very divided opinion of the country upon the question, he was certainly not prepared to introduce a bill for the suspension

of the operation of that Act—(Hear, hear)—though there were portions of the present Act which were not enforceable, and he regretted extremely the manner in which certain over-zealous persons had endeavoured to enforce it.

Mr. GLADSTONE announced that the resolutions in regard to the business of the House fixed for that day would not be taken.

THE ARMY BILL.

In committee on the Army Bill, Mr. TORRENS moved his new clause prohibiting the employment of recruits under twenty on foreign service. He classed the arguments in its favour under three distinct heads of military, medical, and social reasons, quoting the opinions of the Duke of Wellington, Sir John Burgoyne, Lord Sandhurst, Dr. Guthrie, and other authorities, and urged the paramount duty incumbent on the House of neglecting no means of providing a truly national army.

Mr. HOLMS seconded the clause, to which he wished to add the further restriction that no recruits shall be enlisted under nineteen, and went into the statistics of recruiting to show that rejections were more frequent among the younger class of recruits, and that the number of men under twenty in the ranks had largely increased since 1868.

Sir H. STOKES said the Government so far concurred with the principle of the clause that they would agree to an address to the Crown praying that the rule may be observed so far as is practicable; but they objected to having the restriction imposed in a statutory form. The difficulties of recruiting, he pointed out, were much increased by the impossibility of conscription in this country and the varied services the British army has to perform, and we had consequently to take our men as we could get them. He pointed out that a recent general order provided for retaining young recruits at home by putting them in the second battalions and so on. He laid particular stress on efficient medical inspection.

Colonel NORTH and Major DICKSON supported the clause, the latter strongly condemning the short-service system; but Sir W. RUSSELL, while deprecating the employment of young recruits in India, thought that a statutory restriction would be a source of embarrassment. Mr. OSBORNE complained of the official red-tape style in which the Surveyor-General had dealt with the clause, "damning it with faint praise" and neglecting to give the slightest indication how the Government meant to put the system of recruiting on a more satisfactory footing. The discussion was continued in a very thin House by Colonel BARTELOT, who, after condemning the short-service system, and advocating a closer connection between the Militia and the Line, advised Mr. Torrens to accept the offer of the Government, which Colonel SYKES and Sir C. WINGFIELD also thought preferable to a statutory restriction. The clause was negatived without a division.

Lord ELCHO proposed to move a clause restricting the age for entering the reserve, but he was pronounced out of order by the CHAIRMAN, and he postponed it to the report.

Sir W. RUSSELL proposed a series of provisions regulating minutely the terms of enlistment in the army, militia, and reserve, which were opposed by Mr. CARDWELL, and, after a brief discussion, withdrawn.

Lord G. HAMILTON moved a clause relieving county magistrates from the liability to maintain armouries, clothing stores, &c., for the militia, which Mr. CARDWELL met by suggesting that the point should be reserved, without prejudice, until the whole question of local taxation is dealt with. On a division it was only rejected by the narrow majority of 2—176 to 174. In this equally-balanced state of numbers Mr. HENLEY and Colonel GILPIN appealed to the Prime Minister to reconsider the point; and Mr. GLADSTONE, while declining to give any pledge with regard to this bill, promised that it should have a fair consideration in the general question of local rating. The schedules were then agreed to, and at half-past eleven the committee was closed. Thursday was formally fixed for the report, but it will be actually taken on a subsequent day.

TRADES UNIONS.

The Lords' amendments to the Trades Union Bills were next considered. The alterations made by their Lordships in the first bill, which relates to the civil status of these associations, were agreed to; but in the criminal bill there was a long discussion on the subject of picketing. The HOME SECRETARY proposed to amend the Lords' amendments on this point; but, on a division, he was beaten by 147 to 27, and the bill was left in the condition in which it has come down.

The Education (Scotland) Bill was committed *pro forma*, and the Merchant Shipping Bill was withdrawn.

The House adjourned at a quarter to two o'clock.

THE WESTMEATH ELECTION.—The Westmeath election took place at Mullingar on Saturday. Mr. P. J. Smyth (Nationalist) was proposed by the Rev. John Barton, parish priest of Castletown, Geoghegan, and seconded by Mr. Gillroy, a merchant of Mullingar. No other candidate was proposed, and Mr. Smyth was declared duly elected. Captain King Harman addressed the electors in favour of Mr. Smyth. Both the new member and Captain King Harman expatiated on the advantages of "home rule," and the former denounced the Coercion Bill in strong terms.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

The Queen and Royal family arrived at Windsor yesterday morning, having started from Balmoral amid a thunderstorm.

Her Majesty will come to London this day for the purpose of opening the new St. Thomas's Hospital at Lambeth, opposite the Houses of Parliament. On Friday the Queen will give a public breakfast in the grounds of Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Emperor Napoleon and the Empress Eugenie at Chislehurst on Saturday.

The Comtesse de Paris was safely delivered of a daughter on Tuesday evening at York House, Twickenham. The Comtesse and infant are progressing satisfactorily.

The Duke of Anmale visited the Prince and Princess of Wales on Monday at Marlborough House, and stayed to lunch. The Duke of Edinburgh was a visitor at the same time.

Lord De Grey is to be raised to the rank of Marquis in recognition of his services in connection with the Treaty of Washington. His title will be Marquis of Ripon. Sir Stafford Northcote declines to receive any honour in recognition of his services. Lord Tenterden, who acted as secretary on the English side, is to be made a Civil C.B.

Professor Bernard is to be appointed a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council in recognition of his services in connection with the High Joint Commission.

A rumour of Mr. Disraeli's resignation as leader of the Opposition, was current in the House of Commons on Friday night, but it is stated by the *Observer* to be devoid of foundation.

In consequence of indisposition, Mr. Miall, M.P., has, for some days past, been unable to attend to his Parliamentary duties.

We regret to hear of the death, through smallpox, of Mr. Numa Hartog, who was lately Senior Wrangler at Cambridge. Mr. Hartog was a Jew by descent and by faith; and, but for the system of college tests, would probably have had a distinguished academic career open to him subsequent to his attainment of the highest University honours.

The University of Oxford has accepted a legacy of 6,000*l.* bequeathed by the late Mr. Abbott, of Halifax, to found three scholarships for the sons of clergymen of the Church of England.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE BALLOT.

The Army Bill having been saved by being divided into two parts, the Ballot Bill looms into view. It has now, for the first time, a chance of passing; but, like the Army Bill, is cumbersome, unmanageable, and unwieldy. If we were in the month of March, and the Elections (Parliamentary and Municipal) Bill were the one great Ministerial measure of the session, it might be considered as a whole and passed in its entirety. But we are nearing the end of June, and the Ballot Bill is not the only important Ministerial question which, even now, craves a settlement. A suggestion has accordingly been privately made, which has found considerable acceptance upon the back Ministerial benches, that the Ballot Bill, like the Army Bill, should be divided into two, and that the really important portion and main object of the bill, to wit the machinery for secret voting, should be pressed forward, leaving to another session the clauses relative to treating, the abolition of nomination days, and public declarations of the poll, the prohibition of paid canvassers, and of engaging committee-rooms in public-houses, and the payment of election booths, &c., out of local funds. The splitting up of the Army Bill has been so successful, and has put the Liberals into such good spirits, that the presumption is altogether in favour of a similar division of the Ballot Bill. The Cabinet, it is understood, have had the suggestion under consideration to-day (Saturday), and at the first sign of obstruction to progress it is not doubted that Mr. Forster will throw overboard everything but the ballot clauses. The manoeuvres of delay and chicanery adopted by those who find themselves worsted in every stand-up fight necessitate a corresponding change of tactics on the part of the Government. The policy of the Opposition will be to discuss the various details first of the ballot clauses, and afterwards of the non-essential provisions, at such length as to prevent its going up to the Lords until the second or third week in August. Lord Redesdale and the Marquis of Salisbury would then make the advanced period of the session a pretext for throwing over the bill until another year. This astute policy, by which the obstructives of one House would play into the hands of those of the other, would be effectually met by taking out those clauses which provide the machinery of secret voting from the rest of the bill, and considering them in committee, *de die in diem*, until they were passed. It might even happen that the time thus saved would enable the Government to pass an Education Bill for Scotland. Even the Mines Regulation Bill might have a chance—that bill which Lord Elcho amuses himself by demanding from the Home Secretary, in the intervals in which he is not engaged in impudently obstructing the progress of the Army Bill. It is highly to be desired that the Ballot Bill shall not first come into operation at the dissolution of Parliament. If an election is now and then carried on under its provisions,

as it were, under the eyes of Parliament, any defects will be carefully watched, and may be promptly amended. But if the Ballot Act is first tried at a general election, it is possible that during the prevalent confusion, and by means of a lavish and unscrupulous expenditure, the principle of secret voting may be brought into dispute when only the machinery and safeguards are defective and inefficient. There is an additional reason for making a beginning this session, and for providing that any elections which may take place during the coming autumn and winter shall be under the ballot, in order to test the simplicity and security of the machinery adopted by Parliament. I hear it said that the Lords will infallibly throw out the Ballot Bill on some pretext or other. If they get it in time, they will discover that the opinion of the country has never been formally taken upon it, which was the plea put forward for rejecting Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church resolutions. If, however, there be a subject of legislation which the Commons might be excused for dealing with by resolution, and without troubling the hereditary chamber at all, it is the manner in which the constituencies shall elect their representatives. To comp between the represented and the representatives in such a matter would be not only to rouse the sleeping lion, but to tread on his tail and pluck the tenderest hairs from his nose. When irresponsible hereditary legislators venture upon such affronts, peerage reform will not be far off.—*London Correspondent of the Birmingham Post.*

THE LORDS AND THE ARMY BILL.

A meeting of Conservative peers took place on Monday afternoon at the residence of the Duke of Richmond, at which, it is generally understood, the course to be taken in the Upper House with regard to the Abolition of Purchase Bill was decided on. The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says it has been resolved to reject the measure on the second reading, instead of modifying its provisions, as was at first intended, and sending it back to the Commons. The wavering support given to the bill in the Lower House, and the languid interest shown by the public at large in the changes that have recently been made in the measure, are stated to have been the grounds on which the adoption of this policy was recommended to the Tory peers by their chiefs. It is said that equal unanimity will not prevail among them with regard to the Ballot Bill, which has therefore a better chance of passing by reason of this summary mode of dealing with the Army Regulation Bill.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

At Wednesday's meeting of the London School Board, Lord Sandon gave notice that he intended to move a resolution providing for the use of prayers and hymns in schools under the control of the board. Explanations were given by Mr. John Macgregor as to the practical work of the three officers for gathering the "street Arabs" into schools. Each of the two first appointed had been engaged two days with the officer of the Reformatory Refuge and Union, and during that time they did not find any boy or girl so placed as to be qualified to be certificated under the Industrial Schools Acts, the parents, with a wholesome dread of the powers of the board, having taken care to provide against it. But cases had been brought to the knowledge of the board by magistrates, clergymen, and others. Sixteen of such cases came before them in the first week, which had been inquired into, and five of them had been sent before magistrates. One had been sent to a certificated industrial school, and the inquiry into the others was in progress. The result, so far, was to confirm the calculation, that one new case per day for each officer would be found. He expressed a hope that in future the public would send information of cases which came to their knowledge to the clerk, instead of individual members of the board. It was stated by Professor Huxley that he would on Wednesday next bring up the report on the scheme of education to be adopted by the board. The other matters of business transacted related principally to matters of finance and the apportionment of the new rate of 40,000*l.*

BIRMINGHAM.

A meeting of the 400 members composing the committee of the Birmingham Liberal Association was held on Thursday night to consider the action of the Birmingham School Board on the payment of fees to denominational schools, assuming that to be a fit question to enter into the policy of the Liberal party. Mr. P. S. Wright presided. After *explanation*, which, though lengthy, was virtually unanimous on the main question, it was resolved—"That this meeting, representing the Liberal party in Birmingham, strongly protests against the bye-law recently adopted by the Birmingham School Board under which rates may be used to provide national schools, regarding such appropriation of public money as a flagrant violation of the rights of conscience, and hostile to the fundamental principles of the Liberal party." The executive committee were authorised to give effect to this resolution by meetings, memorials, and all other means. Great enthusiasm marked the proceedings throughout, and the feelings expressed on this question were very strong. Meetings are being held in all the wards of the town to protest against the use of the rates for propagating the dogmas of rival Churches.

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"Oswy."—Too late.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1871.

SUMMARY.

On Friday last the pick of the German army, 45,000 strong, made its triumphal entry into Berlin, in commemoration of the war, and to witness the unveiling of the statue of Frederick William III., which was about to be inaugurated when hostilities broke out nearly a year ago. The capital of Germany, as Berlin may now be fitly called, was the scene of high festivity and genuine enthusiasm. The Emperor, princes, and generals of the Fatherland headed the imposing procession through the streets, crowded with people drawn together from all parts of Germany; and amid the din of 101 guns, the blare of trumpets and the roll of drums, the ceremony of the day was completed. It was a purely military pageant, with no other civic element in its composition than the presentation of a municipal address to His Majesty. At night there were grand illuminations, and the soldiers were provided by the hospitable citizens with *al fresco* entertainments. Though at the subsequent court banquet the Emperor William spoke with some elation—remarking that the "people and the army of Germany stand out unsurpassed in the eyes of the world"—it cannot be said that aught occurred to unnecessarily wound French susceptibilities. The Germans are not a gasconading or theatrical race, and have been, on the whole, moderate in their victorious commemoration. The day before the grand festival the German Parliament was closed with an Imperial speech, which closed with these words, "May God grant that the peace we are now enjoying may be lasting, and I think from the newly founded relations of the German Empire, this will be the case." In that prayer even Frenchmen may cordially join.

Two days later, on Sunday, the French were to have had their military pageant, the review of 120,000 troops, on the Champs de Mars, to celebrate the victory over intestine foes. Whether it was the wretched weather, or a fear that the troops would make a Bonapartist demonstration, or a German veto on the number of troops to be assembled as being larger than allowed in treaty, the review was not held, and has been indefinitely adjourned. In this case "it is a custom more honoured in the breach than in the observance." The rain and mud were M. Thiers's useful friends. There is a troublesome military as well as a political problem to be solved in France. The Communist insurrection has left upon the hands of the Government a huge army, which cannot now be disbanded, or greatly reduced, composed of old and new material difficult to amalgamate, while 200,000 of the Imperialist troops have still to be brought back from Germany. For the moment there is more fear of a military demonstration in the interests of Napoleon III. than of a Legitimist restoration. The necessity of keeping up an army out of proportion to the needs of France will tell seriously upon the finances of the country.

Two other events are likely to be prejudicial to the new loan of eighty millions sterling about to be issued by M. Pouyer-Quertier. The Communists or Socialists of Paris are again raising their heads, though only three weeks

have elapsed since their overthrow, and arrests are still being made at the rate of 300 or 400 a day. They boldly put forward their list of candidates for the elections of July 2. The Paris Committee of the International Society, following up the London Committee, have also issued a manifesto appealing to the decision of the voting urn, and expressing unlimited confidence in eventual emancipation "from the yoke of capital and of priesthood." "The burning of Paris," say the Committee, "we accept the responsibility of. The old state of things must and will perish. A gigantic effort has shaken it to its base; one final effort will bring it to the ground." This sudden apparition of what seemed to be a dead cause excites all the more uneasiness on account of the general apathy of the Parisians, and the serious differences among the several political parties—even the Republicans being split into three sections.

Both Monarchists and Republicans are, however, at one in denouncing the movement of Cardinal Bonnechose and the five archbishops who are agitating for French intervention in favour of the Pope; and all the Paris Liberal journals demand that Italy shall be left alone, and that the forthcoming loan shall not be damaged by warlike threats when the country needs peace. Friday last was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of Pius IX. to the Pontificate, and as no preceding Pope has ruled so long, the event was widely celebrated, and His Holiness received the personal congratulation of several European Sovereigns, including Queen Victoria. At Rome the Pope held grand *levées*, and received heaps of addresses and money-offerings; at Brussels his adherents got up a riotous demonstration; and at Madrid the populace were uproariously hostile. Archbishop Manning has repeated the prediction that the Pope will ultimately triumph over the world, but surely the English prelate ought to have sufficient faith in the goodness of his cause and the abundant zeal of Roman Catholics to believe that this result can be better brought about by spiritual means than by the broken sword of France!

During the past week the business of Parliament has made real progress. The Army Bill was considerably hastened on Thursday, and got through committee on Monday—Mr. Torrens's clause prohibiting the employment of recruits under twenty on foreign service being substantially accepted by the Government. The Ballot Bill is the first order of the day for to-morrow night, and if the Opposition should resume their obstructive tactics, Mr. Forster will, perhaps, postpone the clauses for improving the machinery of elections, and content himself with pushing on those which relate to secret voting.

Last night, in the course of a discussion in the Lords on the new Burial Grounds Bill of Earl Beauchamp, the astute Bishop of Winchester expressed his ardent, though somewhat new-born, desire for a settlement of the controversy, and suggested as a compromise that the dead "should be admitted to honourable and reverential burial in the churchyard with no service in the churchyard, but whatever service they pleased in their own place of worship before entering the churchyard." This plan, it may be remarked, has already been rejected "in another place." In the House of Commons, we are happy to record, Mr. Trevelyan carried after midnight, by ninety-nine to seventy-one, an address to the Crown, praying that the statute "by which membership of the Church of England is for the first time imposed as a qualification for appointment to the governing body of Harrow School," might be disallowed.

The Chinese despatch, the telegrams of which have caused so much anxiety in some quarters, turns out to be totally different from what had been expected. We have no space at present for comment, but "An Old Resident in China," makes the following timely remarks on the subject in a letter to the *Times*:—"It now appears that the despatch deals exclusively with the Roman Catholic missions in China. Every one of the examples cited to prove their case occurred in provinces where no Protestant mission has ever existed. Moreover, the difficulties that have arisen with the Roman Catholic hierarchy are familiar to us as having occurred in one age or another in every country in Europe, in the assertion of their superiority to the common law, and in the attempting to shield their own order from its due execution. It is satisfactory to all who are interested in the progress of Protestant missions in China to know that no charges are brought against them in this document; on the contrary, it encourages us to hope that the continuance of a prudent and conciliatory course in the prosecution of their work will insure a continuance of peace."

HOW NOT TO DO IT?

We want an "intelligent foreigner" amongst us to report upon the laborious failure of our legislative machinery this year—for only such an unprejudiced, outside observer could fully appreciate our political "situation" at the present moment. It is now the 21st of June, within six weeks of the customary prorogation. For more than four months Parliament has been in session. It was on the 9th of February that the Royal Speech was delivered, which expressed the confidence of Her Majesty that there would be "no abatement of the energy" with which Parliament had "heretofore applied itself to the work of general improvement in our domestic legislation." How has that expectation been fulfilled? Of the measures foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne, only one—the University Tests Bill—has received the Royal assent. The Army Regulation Bill, which was proposed for second reading as far back as the 6th of March, has only just got through committee—three months having been consumed in passing it through two stages, and the measure itself having been denuded of the greater part of its clauses to enable it to advance thus far. The Ballot Bill, though read a second time *pro forma*, has not been as yet discussed at all; the Licensing Bill and the Local Rating scheme have long since disappeared from the Ministerial programme; and the promised law reforms, including the proposal to strengthen the supreme courts of appeal, have not even been produced. It is quite possible that the Ecclesiastical Titles Act Repeal Bill—a measure of no public importance—together with the Trades Unions bills, may soon become law, but the bill for dealing with primary education in Scotland has not yet got into committee, and will probably have to be abandoned this session.

It cannot be said that the Government are free from blame in connection with this unprecedented break-down in the programme of the session. There was certainly a lack of discretion in introducing for the present so complicated a question as the adjustment of local burdens, and Mr. Lowe's Budget seemed framed to excite irritation and provoke discussion. The proposal for a select committee on the condition of Westmeath also led to the waste of valuable time, which might have been saved if legislation had been at once proposed. If, moreover, the Home Secretary, seeing the formidable vested interests in his front, had been content to introduce a bill to regulate the liquor traffic instead of providing for the cessation of all licences in ten years, he would probably not have failed as he now has done. But apart from these indications of want of judgment and tact, the Government have done their best to push on legislation and save time.

The failure of the session thus far is, of course, mainly due to the obstructive tactics of the Opposition, who have thrown every possible obstacle in the way of the Army Bill. So extreme a course would be understood in a case where it was proposed to abrogate powerful interests without compensation. There was much excuse for the hostility of Irish clergymen and Irish landowners to the measure which so seriously affected their interests. But the army colonels this year have out-done the Irish malcontents of recent sessions, albeit the Government have proposed to give them ample compensation out of the public purse—regulation and non-regulation prices—to the value of eight or nine millions for the abolition of the purchase system. We are not surprised that even so mild and moderate a statesman as Sir Roundell Palmer should be moved to denounce such intolerant and selfish conduct as striking at the root of Parliamentary government. The *Spectator* does not put the case too strongly when it declares that "the officers in Parliament are openly endeavouring by misusing the privileges of minorities to extract from the public treasury all the cash they can. Now they want money down, and then compensation for the loss of illegal chances of promotion; and again, descending to still lower depths, they insist on interest for all the time that compensation may be delayed. What could French officers, whom it is just now the fashion to accuse of selfishness, do worse? or how could the interests of the army be made more avowedly dependent upon the personal claims of a caste?" "They are fighting like the licensed victuallers for liberty and their tills." They are willing to sacrifice a whole session and all its measures, and to keep the country, on their own theory, defenceless, simply in order, to preserve their own selfish interests. Such barefaced factionism is without precedent in our modern Parliamentary history, and even surpasses the memorable conduct of the squires some years ago in relation to the game laws.

The Opposition at large must share the odium

of this obstructive policy, for though it is possible their leader does not entirely approve of it, the rank-and-file of the party have stood by the rapacious colonels. If they have not been vitally interested in a military monopoly, they have found these Fabian tactics serviceable in staving off the Elections Bill. But they may eventually find that a majority cannot so easily be set aside. To carry the Ballot it is not necessary to pass the entire elaborate measure in Mr. Forster's hands. That hon. member may follow the example of Mr. Cardwell, and throw over the clauses which are to regulate future elections for the sake of pushing through those which establish secret voting, and which cannot provoke interminable discussion. It is quite possible so to exasperate the Liberal majority, that they will be ready to endure all the hardships of a prolonged session for the sake of vindicating the principle of Parliamentary Government and supporting an honest Ministry.

The Government have put forward several suggestions for expediting the business of Parliament, founded on the report of a select committee, but when they were brought forward on Friday the whole sitting was—purposely, it would seem—taken up with a preliminary wrangle, and this subject is also left over for another year. The great object of the Opposition now seems to be to waste time, and bring about a barren session, regardless of consequences. They may succeed, but the country will not stand this unconstitutional action on the part of a selfish minority. Nothing is so calculated to strengthen the resolve to put down the military coterie in Parliament, or to quicken the demand for further organic changes, than the tactics now being pursued by the so-called Conservative party, who are making a complete burlesque of party Government; and we are not surprised to learn that its leaders see in this course more injury to themselves than to their opponents. It is hardly possible that the Legislature could be more effectually lowered in public estimation than by the utter failure of this year's session—a failure up to the present time so ridiculous, as well as disgraceful, that the statesmen on both sides must combine to put an end to the public scandal.

THE UNIVERSITY TESTS ABOLITION ACT.

We are thankful to be able, at last, to write "Act" after the familiar words to which our readers have become so accustomed. The University Tests Abolition Bill received the Royal Assent on Friday last, and is now the law of the land. The end of years of painful and difficult controversy has at last been reached, and the Nonconformists of England stand before their fellow-countrymen for the first time for more than two hundred years in a position of equality with regard to educational privileges. For the future, there will be no ban upon them either at Oxford, Cambridge, or Durham. They are at liberty to make their own way, and achieve such position as their abilities may enable them to achieve. All degrees, all emoluments, and all offices are open to them, and it will be their own fault or misfortune if, in future years, they do not take rank, so far as intellectual culture may be concerned, with the most cultured men in the country. We know little of them if we cannot confidently assert that they will do this. We know little of them if we cannot assert, with equal confidence, that they are likely, on the whole, to surpass their competitors.

The University Tests Abolition Act is the end of a very prolonged contest. It is nearly a hundred and seventy years since the Nonconformists first made formal application for the repeal of those clauses in the Act of Uniformity which confined the Universities to Churchmen. Mr. Samuel Palmer, a well-known Nonconformist minister of Southwark, writing in reply to John Wesley's father, remarked that the Nonconformists had made formal proposals upon this subject, and exclaimed against the injustice of their exclusion from the Universities. The celebrated James Owen, of Shrewsbury, dealt with the same question. In reply to the elder Wesley, who had taunted Dissenters with their want of learning, he pertinently remarked that while such want of learning was a cause of persecution, the Dissenter was not allowed the benefit of a learned education to cure him of his ignorance. "They are excluded," he said, "from the fountain of learning and are not allowed to draw its waters. They are punished for using the means of knowledge, and yet damned for the prejudices of ignorance." Resentment at their exclusion was handed down from generation to generation. Dr. Priestley was the next most powerful advocate for the rights of the Nonconformists in this respect. After his time

the question slept, as all other public questions slept, during the wars with America and France. Not until 1834 was it revived, but the motion then made in the House of Commons met with little response, and the matter again dropped.

We owe to Earl Russell the substantial revival of this subject in our own generation. It was in 1850 that Lord John Russell, being then Prime Minister, moved for the appointment of a Royal Commission upon the state of the Universities. This Commission reported in favour of large reforms, including the abolition of the church prayers then in use, and of the imposition of subscription at matriculation. Upon the report of this Commission, as will well be remembered, a special committee was formed to watch the proceedings of Parliament. In March, 1854, the committee presented a memorial in favour of the abolition of tests to Lord John Russell, signed by more than a hundred members of Parliament. Those hundred members included Mr. James Heywood—who took the most active part in the movement—Viscount Goderich, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, Mr. Glyn, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Mr. Miall, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Ellice, Mr. Thomas Duncombe, and others. The result of this movement was the opening of Oxford University.

The question after this was lodged in the able hands of Mr. Heywood, whose services in the early part of this agitation are beyond all praise. We thereupon had the Act for the partial reform of the University of Cambridge.

Mr. Heywood was now thrown out of Parliament, and the question may be said to have slept for a short time. It was brought up again in 1864, after earnest complaints by members of the University of Oxford, who in that year petitioned the House of Lords for the total abolition of subscription. This petition was signed by 106 heads of colleges, professors, and fellows, and declared that "subscription to formularies of faith had failed to secure unanimity of religious sentiment, or even to promote religious power, and that the University was in danger of losing the services of men of high character and ability by insisting on such subscription." Mr. Dodson—the present Chairman of Committees—thereupon introduced a bill into the House of Commons for the abolition of tests at Oxford. This bill simply provided that no person should be required, on taking any academical degree, to subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles. Mr. Dodson's bill was carried, in a House of 394 members, by a majority of twenty-two; but was lost on the last division by two votes.

It has been the happy fate of almost every member who has had to take charge of this question to be lifted into office almost as soon as he has taken charge of it. Mr. Dodson became appointed Chairman of Committees in the House of Commons, and therefore, in 1865, the bill was committed into the hands of Mr. Goschen—the present Secretary to the Admiralty. Mr. Goschen's speech, in introducing his measure, was, perhaps, the ablest and most exhaustive speech that has been delivered upon this question. In the same year Mr. Bouverie brought in his Fellows of Colleges Bill, the object of which was to enable colleges to elect fellows without the requirement of a declaration of conformity to the Established Church. Mr. Goschen's bill received the support of 320 members.

The year 1866 having found Mr. Goschen in office, the University Reform party, acting in conjunction with some Nonconformist representatives, committed this measure into the hands of Mr. Coleridge, the present Solicitor-General. The bill was carried this year by a majority of 114 on the second reading, Mr. Bouverie's Bill was carried by a majority of 22. In the next year (1867), no opposition was offered to the second reading, and when Mr. Fawcett proposed to include Cambridge in the measure the proposal was carried by a majority of 67, while Mr. Bouverie's bill met with almost equal good fortune. The University Bill, however, received a check in the House of Lords, where it was defeated by a majority of 28.

In 1868 all the bills were combined in one, and placed under Mr. Coleridge's charge. It was carried by 198 votes to 140, but could make no further progress. In 1869 it was read a second time without a division, and carried summarily through the House of Commons, but the Lords decided that the motion for the second reading should not be put.

The more recent history of this great measure, still entrusted to Sir John Coleridge's hands, is sufficiently familiar to our readers. We have gone on from year to year enlarging the scope of our bill, and with every enlargement meeting with greater success, until, at last, we have procured the passing of the Act of 1871. It has been hard work, but the work has been

successful. And now, perhaps, in this direction, we may rest for awhile from our labours.

This subject, however, should not be dismissed without a recognition of the invaluable aid received from several members of the University of Oxford, who, for many years past, have been co-operating with Nonconformists in order to make the Universities institutions for the benefit of the nation as such. Mr. Heywood's name comes first in this list. We have also to recognise the services of Mr. Goldwin Smith. Professor Jowett has been foremost in the ranks of reformers, and Sir John Coleridge's service none of us are ever likely to forget. The names of Professor Bryce and Mr. Charles Roundell are familiar enough, or should be, to all our readers. Without the aid of these men we could not have done what has now been done. They have exhibited the question as a national and not a sectarian question, and for the national interests. By the Act of 1871 it has now been settled. The Nonconformist graduates and undergraduates, both at Oxford and Cambridge, have hitherto, reflected lustre upon their denominations; let us hope that the Nonconformists of the future, as long as there can be any, will do equal credit to their names, and justify, by their character and their scholarship, the right and expediency of this great act of national justice.

THE PIGEON BATTUE AT HURLINGHAM.

THE proceedings of certain members of both Houses of Parliament at Hurlingham Park on Friday last, are entitled to quite as much attention as those of the Senate to which these gentlemen belong. In saying this, we do not intend to depreciate those debates which Cowper describes as a "Chaos of contrarieties at war." It is true that at Hurlingham Lords and Commons entirely threw off the cares of public business, and engaged in what we must assume to have been congenial recreation. Under ordinary circumstances we should not care to disturb them in the privacy of their sylvan retreat. If they had been only foolishly occupied we should not have felt called upon to intrude upon that privacy. But when they add cruelty to folly, when they revel in pastimes which are inhuman as well as idiotic, we have a right to protest against their abuse of the wealth and social position which they enjoy, and to demand that there shall not be one law for the rich and another for the poor. For in spite of the Royal and noble patronage which is supposed to elevate the aristocratic pleasure-ground in question far above the vulgar haunts of brutality, we must insist that the pigeon-slaughter which took place at Hurlingham on Friday, in the presence of a select gathering of the nobility and gentry of England, does not differ even in degree from the cruel sports which the law places under its ban, and which are usually identified with the low tastes of a bygone time.

There is something infinitely humiliating, as well as repulsive, in the graphic descriptions of "the great match" which humane eye-witnesses have published in two of the daily journals. Fox-hunting is bad enough; but the fox is a wild animal, while his chances of escape are not inconsiderable and the hunter often incurs no little personal danger in riding across country. But the pigeon matches at Hurlingham are simply bird murder on a wholesale scale. A number of noblemen and gentlemen—members of the Imperial Legislature—give up a whole day to shooting tame pigeons as they fly out of a box from which, by the pulling open of a trap, they are suddenly liberated. Some, of course, are killed at once, but others are only maimed or wounded, in which case a black retriever soon ends their sufferings. A few succeed in fluttering over the palings, and are left to die at leisure, while "No bird" is recorded against the shot which thus protracts the agony of the helpless victims of the very fashionable sportsmen. In this contest between twenty-two members of Parliament (equally selected from the two Houses) and ten times that number of pigeons, all the chances are in favour of the bird-killers, and therefore the betting is largely on the side of the gun. So manly a sport, of course, could not be carried on without betting. There must be "a book" and money must change hands. Gambling by vulgar people is unlawful, as the lock-up at Bow-street or Marlborough-street can testify. But there is no policeman's eye to watch the aberrations of the great. If the New Out or Rosemary-lane ventured upon a cockfight, magisterial warrants and the constable's staff would speedily be in requisition. The shady groves and pleasant meadows of Hurlingham are, however, sacred from all offensive intrusion. Yet gambling by

a marquis or an earl is gambling still, and to shoot two hundred and twenty pigeons at a close distance for the mere fun of the thing is just as mean and cowardly as the ancient orgies of the cockpit. So, we venture to affirm, the administrators of the law would decide if City 'prentices, instead of gentlemen with long pedigrees, followed the pastime.

Two members of the Royal Family were among the sportsmen who graced Hurlingham with their presence on Friday. We do not wish to judge harshly either of the Prince of Wales or of the Duke of Edinburgh. But assuredly the time has come when they should be better advised than to lend their countenance to sports of this description. The temptation for them to follow the example of the *crème de la crème* of society is admittedly great; but the motives which should prompt them to resist that temptation are surely far greater. With the eyes of the English people upon all their public acts, what felicity can they find in a battue of pigeons? To the common herd of marquises, earls, and aristocratic members of the Legislature, it may, for the present, matter little what the public thinks of their conduct in this or any other matter. At all events, they may be safely left to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and to those public men who regard the Game Laws as one great cause of the continued prevalence of cruel sports. But the Heir Apparent and his brother are expected to adorn the position which they occupy, and in all things to set a good example, not only to their own order, but to the country generally.

How far a cruel pastime, even if it be engaged in without conscious cruelty, influences the character of men for evil, our readers are well able to judge for themselves. How far familiarity with such spectacles is calculated to lower the moral tone of the fair sex who assist at them, is equally a point upon which every one can best exercise his own judgment. But we have long held the opinion that the taste which revels in a sporting battue is akin to the spirit which grows reckless of human suffering. The poet has aptly said, "all men hate blood until heated"; and he who has learnt to treat the brute creation without pity, is only too likely to harden his nature against all tenderness of feeling. The whole question requires to be firmly dealt with by public opinion. We refer not merely to thoughtless acts of barbarity on the part of individuals, but also to the great system of the game laws and of game-preserving—a system which would not be tolerated for a day in France, Germany, or the United States. Mr. P. A. Taylor, in a recent letter to the *North British Agriculturist*, says of the game-preservers that "It is they who destroy Nature's balance of animal life, and who, for the selfish purposes of their own sport, and not for the interest or pleasure of the population, destroy this balance, extirpate many useful species of animals, and thus overload the land with particular species, to the emptying of our granaries and the filling of our prisons." There is great truth in these remarks; and, although they are hardly germane to the subject of our article, we call attention to them, because the time is at hand when a humane people will no longer tolerate legalised cruelty and injustice for the sake of any class, whether privileged or unprivileged.

THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

The Fourth Triennial Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace began on Friday afternoon. It was a public rehearsal—in form, at least—but, in the estimation of not a few, is the most enjoyable, as it is the most varied, of the four great musical days. At all events, the presence of an audience of many thousands—say, at a venture, 10,000—is tolerable evidence of the popularity of the first day of the Festival. The spectacle on one of these occasions—the noble transept, so vast in proportions, though for acoustic purposes somewhat limited in height; the picturesque aspect of the orchestra, with its serried ranks of 4,000 performers, drawn from the provinces and the Continent, as well as from London choirs; the multitude of listeners—the gay dresses of the ladies filling up with brilliant colouring the entire ground-floor; and the numbers crowding such portions of the iron galleries as can be used,—the scene has been often enough described, though it is ever fresh to the spectator. Happily the weather was exceptionally warm and fine. Punctual to a moment Sir Michael Costa made his bow to the audience, and a smart rap of his *bâton* called the orchestra to a sense of its responsibilities. The performance appropriately began with the "Hallelujah" and "Amen" of the *Messiah*, which were given with the full strength of the orchestra, though it may be said a good many of the choristers

were not as yet in their places. The grandeur of this sudden and stupendous outburst of harmony was truly sublime. "Perhaps," remarks the *Times*, "so wonderful a manifestation of choral power, when a multitude of singers is engaged, has never before been heard in this country or in any other. All that had been predicted as sure to follow from the recent contrivances to improve the general effect and further to concentrate the mass, nay, masses, of sound, seemed realised in these two performances. Much good was effected at the last festival by the screening in of the transept on both sides; but the addition of the overhanging velarium, underneath the roof, has materially increased the sonority, while, on the other hand, it has as materially lessened the dispersion of sound inevitable in so immense a space." This, in fact, was the great problem of the rehearsal day, and it was most satisfactorily solved. By the time the stately "Te Deum"—that noble hymn of praise, composed in 1743, to celebrate the victory over the French at Dettingen—was commenced, all the vacant spaces in the orchestra were filled. The singers had gathered confidence, and left little to be desired. In fact, the performance was nearly perfect, the conductor on only one occasion stopping the singers.

This was the end of the first part, and after an interval of half-an-hour for refreshment, the vast assembly resumed their places to listen to Mr. Best's organ concerto on the great organ, which was finely given with orchestral accompaniments. Then followed Handelian selections from to-day's (Wednesday's) programme—the solos by Signor Agnesi, Mdlle. Titiens, Mesdames Sinico and Trebelli-Bettini, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Cummings; Mr. Sims Reeves being unable owing to cold and hoarseness to take his allotted share. There was also a grand chorus from "Joshua" and a selection from "Athaliah," Handel's third English oratorio (1733), comprising two choruses, "The mighty power in whom we trust," and "Give glory to His awful name." The selections from "Solomon" which followed, such as the grand double chorus, "Your harps and cymbals sound," the still grander "From the censer," and the graceful and melodious "May no rash intruder,"—the "Nightingale Chorus," as it is sometimes called, and the double chorus, "Praise the Lord with harp and tongue," were deservedly popular, and were a foretaste of the fine musical treat in store for the audience at the Crystal Palace this afternoon. It was half-past four before "Israel in Egypt" was reached, and though the orchestra showed no signs of exhaustion, yet four hours of music had told upon the capacity for enjoyment of the hearers, and numbers now began to leave. Those, however, who remained, had a rich treat in the massive choruses of the noble oratorio, which comprised, "He spake the word and there came all manner of flies," "He gave them hailstones for rain," "He sent a thick darkness" (recitative chorus), "He rebuked the Red Sea," "The people shall hear," "Moses and the children of Israel," and "The horse and his rider," the very masterpieces of Handel's choral combinations.

The real festival began on Monday, in the presence of nearly twenty-two thousand visitors—an increase upon preceding "Messiah" days. The performance was, on the whole, a most brilliant success. It would be impossible to imagine any thing more imposing than the effect of those wonderful choruses in this oratorio given by the thousands of voices in the great orchestra—"All we like sheep," "For unto us a Child is born," and the "Hallelujah,"—"chorus of choruses"—being conspicuous for perfection of execution and precision. There was a little more uncertainty in some of the fugues, the most perceptible perhaps in "He trusted in God," when, in spite of Sir Michael Costa's energetic endeavours, the basses were several times slightly behind time. The same may be observed of "Their sound is gone out." However, in a performance on so gigantic a scale, it would be almost a miracle if there were perfect precision in these most difficult choruses, and as a whole it really was a magnificent display. The soloists were one and all everything that could be wished as to execution. Mr. Vernon Rigby has earned for himself the highest credit for undertaking not only his own part, but also that of Mr. Sims Reeves, who still remains unable to put in an appearance at this Festival. Mdlle. Titiens' glorious voice was well heard in "I know that my Redeemer," and the singers in the quartetts, in the third part, Mesdames Sherrington, Trebelli-Bettini, and Mr. Patey, were quite equal to their task. Mr. Kerr Gedge, who has a powerful tenor voice, undertook several recitatives and the tenor part of the quartetts; and Mr. Santley, always reliable, was as faultless and forcible as

usual in the execution of his part of the programme. The grand chorus, "Worthy is the Lamb," followed by the "Amen," brought the performance to a triumphant conclusion, in which no small portion of the credit was due to the untiring efforts of the experienced conductor.

We have spoken above of the varied and attractive selection from Handel's works—some from sources little known—set down in this afternoon's programme, and have only to add that the Festival will conclude on Friday with the performance entire of "Israel in Egypt"—an oratorio which, from its dramatic character and succession of grand double choruses, is, in so vast an area as the Crystal Palace, more effective than any other of the great composer's works.

Foreign and Colonial.

GERMANY.

THE MILITARY PAGEANT IN BERLIN.

The triumphal entry of the German troops into Berlin on Friday was the occasion of great rejoicings. The weather was magnificent; all business was suspended, and it is calculated that as many as 200,000 strangers visited the city. The Emperor conferred numerous orders, and several princes, including Prince Leopold of Bavaria and Prince George of Saxony, as well as some generals, were appointed commanders of regiments. General von Roon was raised to the dignity of count, and General von Moltke to that of field-marshal.

The *Daily News* gave the following full telegraphic summary of the ceremony as early as the following morning, which was subsequently amplified in elaborate letters:—

It was not until nearly one o'clock that the loud bicker of drums and clashing of brass bands, mingled with the roar of cheering, told those in the vicinity of the Brandenburg Gate that the head of the procession must be in the Potsdamer Place. The cheering comes nearer and nearer, and there are the white plumes and white coat of gallant old Wrangel, who having contributed to earlier triumphs, is now leading one which only old age forbade him to help to earn. Alone the old man rides, and the people willingly give their lungs a breather in cheering him. He has his staff behind, in the shape of the generals like himself superannuated from active work, and those who from whatever cause were not in the war. Then follow the fighting staffs, headed by Blumenthal and the rest, differing from the preceding body in that they are in field dress instead of full parade uniform. Then come the leaders who have served as civil governors during the war—Bittenfeld, Falkenstein, Bonin, and Fabrice. Behind these, again, ride the generals commanding the several army corps, succeeded by the men who commanded whole armies in these days when Germany has so many armies—the Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Crown Prince of Saxony, Field-Marshal Steinmetz, and Manteuffel, Werder, Von der Tann, and Guben, who have also commanded armies, were not in this company, but among the corps of commanders preceding.

There is a little interval, and then come the makers of history—Bismark, Moltke, and Roon. What a tempestuous gust of cheering greets these! It is no sudden squall to die away at once, for here behind them, the solitary centre of the splendid picture, rides Kaiser William himself, upright and martial-seeming in his field uniform, and on his war horse, a dark bay one. Behind him ride the field-marshal of the Royal house, the Crown Prince of Germany, looking every inch a Prince and a soldier, on a chestnut horse; and Prince Frederick Charles, heavy-browed, stalwart, and square, with his firm, strong seat on the bright bay charger. Following these, the central figures of the pageant, come a great bevy of princes, guests of the Emperor, and personal staff, glittering in varied brilliant uniform, and making a gallant show. Behind these came the under officers of varied German nationalities bearing the spoils of war—the eagles and the colours. As he wheels under the gate Wilhelm casts a look back at these prizes about to pass under a structure once despoiled by the armies of the nation from whom his armies had taken them. Now for the men who took them. With steady tramp come laurel-crowned the stalwart infantry men of the Guard, suggesting memories of St. Privat, Givonne, Stains, Pierrefitte, and Le Bourget. As they look up they see around them by the gate the blazoned records and emblems of their services "vor Paris." Ah! the drums may rattle and the music swell, but the mighty volume of cheering quells the instrumental sounds. And so amid hurrying, and waving of handkerchiefs and the clapping of hands, the long anaconda of fighting-men drags its length through the historical gate.

On passing through the gate the Emperor halted to receive an address of congratulation from the bevy of Berlin young ladies, and kissed the speaker, Miss Blasser. At the head of the Linden he received an address from the Burgomaster, accompanied by the magistrates.

Down the Linden, under the victory columns and between the captured cannon, flanked by a sea of humanity rising in billows to the tops of the houses. Past Palace, University, and Opera House, to where old Marshal "Vorwarts" stands in bronze. Here, under the shadow of the rugged old warrior, with the Reichstag rising in a bank behind, the Kaiser wheels his horse, Princes, generals, guests, and staff on either side of him, and lets his troops march past him. Like a moving wall the men go by in companies. In their half squadrons the horsemen make a gallant show. From the terrace of the Imperial Schloss Royal beauty showers its smiles and greetings on its conquerors.

The front of the Emperor's Palace is also crowded with the ladies of the German royal and princely houses. The Tribune, between it and the Opera House, is perhaps the most brilliant of all, with dignitaries, home and foreign, the members of the diplomatic corps, &c. The recess of the University opposite is one huge

tribune, in which are many Americans. On the side walk between the Palace and the Opera House stand ranged the officers of the garrison not participating the procession. Opposite are the members of the Imperial Russian Deputation, and many doctors, ambulance directors, civil officers connected with the war administration, &c.

As the troops marched past some, when over the Schloss Bridge, wheel away and are no more seen. Others bend to the right, and take up positions in serried files in the Lustgarten, forming gradually three sides of a square with the yet unveiled statue of William III. in the centre. In front of the fighting-men stand the musicians and the trumpeters. In three ranks on the open face of the square, from the Schloss, stand the bearers of the captured trophies. The raised and open hall of the museum, behind all, is full of the medalled veteran invalids of the old wars, of yeomen of the Palace, and of the Royal gendarmes. The seats on the terrace in front of the Schloss are packed with officers of the Guards and the garrison. Around the statue, on the steps and close by, gradually collects a dense group—ministers and councillors of State, municipals, clerics, &c.

And now, after less marshalling than might have been expected, Prince Augustus of Wurtemberg, the commander of the parade, rides past the statue of Germania into the Schloss, to tell his master that all is ready. Then the Emperor, with his suite of Princes, enters the square and takes up a position under an awning between the two fountains. As Wilhelm comes, the troops present arms, and the bearers of the trophies lay them down at the foot of the statue. There is a loud and sustained roll of drums, and as this dies away, the cathedral choir bursts out into a hymn. This over, the Chaplain-General, standing on the steps of the monument, offers up a short prayer.

There is another bicker of the drums, and then Bismark approaches the Emperor, and is understood to be asking his permission that the statue be unveiled. Wilhelm makes a gesture of assent. Bismark waves his hand as a signal. The canvas falls from the statue, the drums roll, the trumpets blare, the standards of the Guards are lowered towards the statue, the troops present arms, and burst into volleys of cheering. The air is full of din, for a salute of 101 guns is being fired, and the church bells break into unanimous ringing. Out of the turmoil the National Air resolves itself with difficulty, while the Emperor, helmet in hand, approaches his father's statue, and walks round it lingeringly. I was not near enough to hear whether he said anything. And now "*Nun danket alle Gott*" is being played from the Museum, the troops joining in the grand "*Te Deum*" of Germany, and then the pageant is over. The whole whole of the ceremonies were concluded by five o'clock.

A Reuter's telegram gives the text of the Emperor's speech when the statue was unveiled:—

What we projected amid the most profound peace is completed; what we had hoped to unveil in the profoundest peace—this statue—has now become a memorial of the close of one of the most glorious, though one of the most sanguinary, wars of modern times. If the King to whom we erect this statue could see us now, he would be well satisfied with his people and his army. May the peace which we have achieved by so many sacrifices be lasting. We must all do our part that it may be so. God grant it!

On Friday night the city was brilliantly illuminated. The Linden was illuminated from end to end with Chinese lanterns, strung on evergreen boughs, alternated with Bengal fire from the bowls on the summits of the frequent pillars. The Brandenburg Gate was most brilliantly illuminated by the electric light, as were the temporary statues erected to grace the triumphal entry, and the statue which was unveiled. Pedestrians thronged every thoroughfare, wheeled vehicles being forbidden. The Emperor and the Court, however, transgressed the law, driving about for a considerable portion of the evening, and received everywhere with intense enthusiasm. The troops were entertained by the civil population with the greatest profusion. There was not, however, the slightest disturbance, and the streets were quite quiet by midnight.

The festivities were continued on Saturday. The Emperor gave a dinner party at the Schloss to 640 guests, chiefly generals and commanders of corps. The Crown Prince and Princess and the other princes were present; also Prince Bismark, Count Von Moltke, and the Duke of Manchester. Dinner was served on the Emperor's magnificent silver plate. 200 guests dined in the White Hall, and the remainder in the Picture Gallery and other rooms. After dinner the Emperor made a speech commenting on the glorious victories of United Germany.

The day of commemoration and honour which was to hand to posterity a memorial of my Royal father, who led his people and army to imperishable renown and hitherto unknown prosperity, was intended to be passed amid the most profound peace. Providence, however, willed it otherwise. For a second time Prussia has been called upon, formerly with her allies, and now in conjunction with the whole of Germany, to conquer, by victory after victory, unparalleled in magnitude and duration, the same enemy who had previously challenged her. It is for this reason that the cross in iron once more decorates the breasts of our valorous soldiers. At home, all classes of the population, of both sexes, emulated one another in joyful self-sacrifice and neighbourly love. The people and the army of Germany stand out unsurpassed in the eyes of the world. I therefore now raise my glass in memory of the hero-king and in gratitude to my people.

The Emperor shortly after again stood up and said—

I propose a toast of thankfulness to now united Germany, to its monarchs and princes, present and absent.

The speech was received with enthusiasm. After the banquet the Emperor, the princes, the Crown Princess, and the other guests went to the opera.

On Sunday, special thanksgiving services were held in the churches. The Emperor and royal

family and guests attended the Garrison Church, which was crowded. Dr. Hoffmann preached. A "*Te Deum*" was sung. Taking as his text Acts of the Apostles ix. 31, "Then had the churches rest throughout all Judea, and Galilee, and Samaria, and were edified, and, walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied." Collections were made for the widows and orphans. During service 101 cannon were fired and bells were rung. It is added that Chaplain Hengstenberg read the national prayer, composed by the High Consistory, which prayer was read in all the churches of Prussia.

The Emperor has gone to Ems to visit the Czar. A Berlin telegram of Monday in the *Daily News* says:—"Certain complications in France seem to be apprehended here. The truculent and self-confident tone of the Versailles and Paris press is the reverse of reassuring. I believe there is no doubt that instructions have just been transmitted to stop the return from France of the German troops under orders to leave, as well as temporarily to discontinue the surrender of the remaining prisoners."

FRANCE.

The news from Paris is not very exciting. Arrests continue to be made, and in the 18th and 19th Arrondissements sentinels are still insulted, and even attacked.

The weather has been very stormy in Paris. The *Temps* states that the heavy rains have had serious effects upon many of the buildings partially destroyed by fire. The rain has sapped the foundations, and numerous apparently solid walls have given way and added to the masses of broken material embedded in mud. It is feared that some lives have been lost, as marauders and pilferers were always prowling about the deserted buildings. The public gardens are inaccessible on account of the heavy rains; the great alley of the Luxembourg Garden has become a pond. The garden itself and also that of the Tuileries are completely under water, or were on Saturday, while at the Champ de Mars carriages, horses, and foot passengers are almost lost in the mud that covers the ground upon which the intended review was to have been held yesterday.

The expected grand review which was to have been held first in the Champ de Mars, and then at Longchamps, did not come off, and has been indefinitely postponed, on account, it is said, of the bad condition of the ground caused by the late heavy rains. According to another account, M. Thiers had been given to understand that the regiments would certainly march past with the cry of "*Vive l'Empereur*."

The Liberal journals of Paris severely criticise the agitation which the bishops are endeavouring to foment in favour of intervention at Rome for the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope. The newspapers at the same time express satisfaction at seeing the clerical and Bourbon party manifesting its designs with such frankness. The journals of all political parties urge the electors not to absent themselves from the voting, and recommend that no candidates should be supported whose professions of faith are vague or ambiguous.

It is stated that the police have received nearly 400,000 anonymous denunciations of alleged Communists. The number of Communists killed, wounded, or captured is estimated roughly at 100,000. According to the *Soir*, 660,000 weapons and 1,700 cannon and mitrailleuses have been found in Paris.

The *Journal Officiel* publishes an indignant protest against what it calls lying accusations, brought by part of the English press against the Versailles Government, of cruelty towards the insurgents.

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

At the National Assembly on Friday, on the occasion of the report of the previous sitting being read, General Trochu said that the individuals whom he had arrested as Prussian agents during the siege had since reappeared on the scene in the character of military leaders of the Paris insurrection. He particularly mentioned Dombrowski as belonging to this category. General Trochu added that he regarded the insurrection as a continuation of the foreign war under another form. He moreover expressed himself astonished that Prince Bismark, who had twice alluded to the Commune, had not spoken of it with the horror with which it inspired the whole universe, but, on the contrary, had attributed to it at least a grain of good sense. M. Baze submitted a motion that the Assembly should not separate before enacting the financial and organic laws, and that it should continue to sit for two years, the powers possessed by M. Thiers to be prolonged for the length of time which the Assembly should last. M. Dahiret gave notice of a motion that the Assembly should elect on the 22nd inst. a committee of fifteen members, who should be instructed to draw up a draft of a definitive constitution for the government of France. M. Jules Favre, replying to an assertion made on Saturday by M. Vallon, said he went to Meaux not to treat for peace—a course he had no authority or power to take, but to bring about the meeting of the Assembly. It was true that Prince Bismark pointed out the possible conditions of peace, but

this was foreign to the purpose for which M. Jules Favre went, and was not a subject suitable for a public discussion, the responsibility for which M. Jules Favre laid upon M. Vallon. Moreover, he added, "what Frenchman would at that time have accepted a peace based on the abandonment of Strasburg, our bulwark, and a city whose defenders were nobly shedding their blood for France?" M. Jules Favre added that he desired the most strict investigation into the conduct of the Government of the National Defence, but said that it ought to extend to the acts of the men who had previously led the country to its ruin. A correspondent at Versailles says that this reply was not well received by the House, and that in one part of his speech M. Favre was met by cries of "Oh, oh!" when he evidently expected cheers.

The National Assembly on Monday adopted a bill conferring the right to vote and to stand at elections upon all natives of Alsace and Lorraine residing in France; the only condition attaching to these privileges is that their place of residence should be made known to the authorities. The Assembly agreed to a resolution to restore the law of 1860 which regulates the right of manufacturing and selling arms. Replying to a question from M. Langlois, the Minister for Foreign Affairs said that great physical difficulties had stood in the way of bringing back the French prisoners from Germany. There were still 280,000 in Germany on the 20th of May; 106,000 have returned to France, and from 3,000 to 4,000 come home daily. M. Jules Favre declared that the Government had made every effort to accelerate the return of the captives.

A Versailles telegram states that the new French loan will be issued in a five per cent. stock, and the amount will be 80,000,000*l.*, instead of 100,000,000*l.*, as originally fixed in the bill laid before the National Assembly.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

The preparations for the elections go on, but there is some talk of postponing them now to the 10th of July. Eighteen of the principal journals have constituted themselves into an Electoral Committee, in order to recommend and support, without taking any special party view, those candidates whose past career and profession of political faith shall offer serious guarantees for the maintenance of the cause of order and public peace. The programme is signed by no Republican organs.

The newspapers which have not joined the Electoral Association of the eighteen journals publish the programme of the General Republican Committee. It declares the Republic to be the only rational and legitimate expression of the national sovereignty exercised by universal suffrage, and that every monarchical form of government carries with it the abdication of that sovereignty. The programme says:—"The Republic exists *de facto*; consequently the committee will support those candidates who pledge themselves to uphold the present order of things, which alone can give France the security she needs to recover from her disasters." The Duc de Chartres has come forward as a candidate for the department of La Vendée.

About a score of the extreme Radical party in the Assembly have put forth an address in which they say:—

The Monarchy has again displayed its flag. It is for us to unfurl ours. Do not allow ourselves to slumber, and suddenly awake under a monarchy. Monarchy can only lead you back to Caesarism, and Caesarism to final and hopeless decay. To escape such a fate you have only one issue. You are separated from the abyss by the Republic. Therefore cling fast to that last means of safety, as beyond it there is only fall after fall in an empty void. You are in one of those hours when a nation has to choose between life and death. Any illusion on that point would destroy you inevitably. Death is the return to a past which everything has condemned in our country, no matter by what name it has been called; old régime, Napoleon, Charles X., Louis Philippe, or Louis Bonaparte. These various régimes only call to mind failure and ruin. Enough of ruin. Let us at last rest on what lives, on what exists, on the spirit of modern times, or, in other words, on liberty, on the Republic! Let us not struggle against the force of things which carries away dead things—dynasties, monarchies. They would drag us down into their tomb. Let us make an alliance with living things, for they will cure our ills, give us hope, and impart strength. They will render to our France [her] immortal youth. *Vive la République!*

The first name attached to this manifesto is that of Edgar Quinet. Louis Blanc is also among the signatories.

The correspondent of the *Telegraph* at Versailles calculates that out of the 115 deputies to be returned, twenty-five or thirty will be Legitimists, as many Orleanists, some forty Moderate Republicans, fifteen men of the Extreme Left, and ten Imperialists. The first three sections will combine in the support of M. Thiers. The Imperialist candidates are making vast efforts and spending much money; but they have no chance of any substantial success, as all the other parties will unite against them if they appear in the Chamber in any force. M. Glais-Bizoin publishes an address to the electors of Paris, promising to support M. Thiers.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY.

On Friday was definitely reconstructed the Comité Central de la Garde Nationale Fédérée. Its President is Domierow, a Russian; the Vice-President, Reynold Tirard Eugène; the Secretary, Roehardet; the Treasurer, Cour. A large meeting of the Central Committee of the International Society took place in Paris on the same evening, when a manifesto to working men was adopted. The manifesto says:—

Let the reaction chant victory, but let us act. You

have been disarmed, but have you been really conquered? In Paris you number still a hundred thousand men. The French laws give political power to you, the working men. Have no more clubs, or meetings, or organs. Rally round the International Society of Working Men, you who claim a right to live. The society alone can lead you to emancipation, and can drag into daylight capital and priestcraft. At the present moment the International Society is denounced as grandly criminal. All those who capitulated, all the incapable persons of the capital, lay at its door the misfortunes of France and the fires of Paris. On the Jules Favres, on the Trochus, and on the rest, we hurl back the misfortunes of France. We accept the responsibility of the conflagration of Paris. The old social system must perish, and it shall perish. A gigantic effort has already shaken it to its foundations. A final effort must uproot it entirely. Let us have no internal disputes, no divisions at the electoral urns. The reaction has taken from us our arms, but it has not taken from us our electoral votes. Long live the Social Republic! Long live the Commune!

Many incendiary placards to the same effect have been posted about Paris.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Mr. Vallandigham, the leader of the Democratic party, has been accidentally shot, and has died from his wounds.

A number of the Communists are believed to have arrived in Rome. Foreigners of a low class have changed an extraordinary quantity of 100-franc French gold pieces.

The total loss to the labouring classes in and about the coalmines of Pennsylvania, growing out of the recent strikes, is estimated at over 18,000,000 dollars.

The present cotton crop in America is below an average. Great damage has been done to the crops in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas by the recent excessive rains.

The Americans have commenced an expedition against Corea. The Koreans fired upon a reconnoitring party, and a general shelling ensued, the Americans capturing a fort. The Admiral has telegraphed to Washington that he will continue his operations unless countermanded.

Advices from Madrid report most favourably on the prospects of the harvest in Spain, which is now considered safe beyond all contingencies. During 1871 it is believed the country will be able to make to make shipments to the value of 10,000,000l. or 12,000,000l. Great expectations, it is said, are also entertained as to the wine and oil crops this year, but with regard to those it is too early to form any positive opinion.

PRESENTS TO COUNT MOLTKE.—Innumerable presents are showering in upon Count Moltke from admiring fellow-countrymen. One Saxon farmer sent him a cartload of hams; another, from Pomerania, a ton and a half of cheese; a third, several bladders of lard; and, from an ardent admirer on the Rhine, came a whole hoghead of ead de Cologne.

THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.—Now that the boring of the great tunnel is completed, doubts are cast upon its early opening. The smoke evolved from the locomotives is a great evil, for the tunnel is not efficiently bored through until it is ventilated. At the first trial, two out of three engine-drivers perished from suffocation, the third nearly so. The temperature is extremely high, and engines consuming their own smoke have been ordered from England.

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL DEBT.—May we as a nation not be pardoned for a little public pride in the fact that, within less than six years, we have reduced our debt 503,000,000 dollars, and the annual interest charge 38,000,000 dollars? This result, far in excess of any financial reduction accomplished by other nations, is a matter over which we may justly expend a little boasting. It is a compliment not only to our resources, but to our national integrity, and efficiently answers those apostles of "free-love" financiering who prophesied that the country neither could nor would pay the debt.—*Boston Congregationalist*.

WHERE MORMONS COME FROM.—The census of Utah shows that not far from half the population were born there—a large proportion for so young a territory. Of the 45,283 not born in Utah, about a third were born in other parts of the United States, and two thirds in foreign countries. Of the 30,702 born in foreign countries, seven-eighths were born in Great Britain, Denmark, or Sweden—namely, 20,270 in Great Britain (of whom 16,073 are returned as born in England, 1,783 in Wales, and 2,391 in Scotland), 4,967 in Denmark, and 1,790 in Sweden. Only 502 of the Utah people were born in Ireland; only 63 in France; 613 in Norway; 358 in Germany; 122 in Holland; 2 in Belgium; 509 in Switzerland. 687 were born in British North America.

THE CROWN PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA.—One of the Berlin correspondents, describing the pageant and festivities of last Friday, says of the Crown Princess (our own Princess Royal):—"Heartiest among the cheers are those which greet the right Royal wife of the Crown Prince. She is the evident favourite of the ladies as well as that of the gentlemen. 'That is Victoria,' they exclaim with delight, while testifying to their feelings by waving handkerchiefs and shouting 'Hoch.' The Crown Princess appears to appreciate her reception. Her face is wreathed in smiles, with those inexpressibly fascinating smiles with which the late Lord Broughton noted as the special attraction of her Royal mother. The popularity of the Princess is not a thing of yesterday, yet her noble and praiseworthy conduct during the

late war has doubly endeared her to the not very impressionable people among whom her lot is cast. Many a wounded soldier owes alleviation of his sufferings, if not his life, to the zeal and devotion which the Princess exhibited when superintending the hospitals at Frankfort and Homburg. The last time I saw her was when visiting these hospitals. She was then dressed very plainly, and had none of the trappings of royalty about her. To-day she is beautifully attired in a most becoming muslin dress, but she does not gain anything in interest or excite a warmer feeling of admiration than when she spent hours in visiting and personally caring for the sick and the dying."

FEARFUL EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA.—The American Minister in China, General Lowe, has just forwarded to the Secretary of State at Washington the following account of the fearful earthquake which occurred in the Bathang, in the province of Szechuen, on the 11th April, which he has had translated from the report of the Chinese Governor-General of the province in which it occurred:—

General Lowe says that Bathang lies on a very elevated spot beyond the province, about 260 miles west of Li-Tang, and about thirty post stations from the district town of Ta-tien, on the high road to Thibet. About eleven o'clock on the morning of the 11th of April, the earth at Bathang trembled so violently that the Government offices, temples, granaries, stone houses, storehouses, and fortifications, with all the common dwellings and the temple of Ting-lin, were at once overthrown and ruined; the only exception was the hall in the temple grounds, called Ta-Chao, which stood unharmed in its isolation. A few of the troops and people escaped, but most of the inmates were crushed and killed under the falling timber and stone. Flames also suddenly burst out in four places, which strong winds drove about until the heavens were darkened with the smoke, and their roaring was mingled with the lamentations of the distressed people. On the 16th the flames were beaten down, but the rumbling noises were still heard under ground like distant thunder, as the earth rocked and rolled like a ship in a storm. The multiplied miseries of the afflicted inhabitants were increased by a thousand fears, but in about ten days matters began to grow quiet, and the motion of the earth to cease. The grain collector at Bathang says that for several days before the earthquake the water had overflowed the dykes, but after that the earth cracked in many places, and black, fetid water spouted out in a furious manner. If one poked the earth the spouting instantly followed, just as is the case with the salt wells and fire wells in the eastern part of the province; and this explains how it happened that fire followed the earthquake at Bathang. As nearly as can be ascertained there were destroyed two local temples, the offices of the collector of grain-tax, the local magistrates' offices, the colonels' offices, the Ting-lin temple, and nearly 700 fathoms of wall around it, and 351 rooms in all, inside; six smaller temples, numbering 221 rooms, besides 1,849 rooms and houses of the common people. The number of people killed by the crash, including the soldiers, was 2,298, among whom were the local magistrate and his second in office. The earthquake extended from Bathang eastward to Pang-Chahemuth, westward to Nan-Tun, on the south to Lintah-shih, and on the north to the salt wells of Atimtoz, a circuit of over 400 miles. It occurred simultaneously over the whole of this region. In some places steep hills split and sunk into deep chasms, in others mounds on level plains became precipitous cliffs, and the roads and highways were rendered impassable by obstructions. The people were beggared and scattered like autumn leaves, and this calamity to the people of Bathang and the vicinity was really one of the most distressing and destructive that has ever occurred in China.

THE ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE.

When we first visited this excellent institution, four or five years ago, it was in its infancy, and occupied two houses in Upper Holloway. We discovered the pleasant home in which at the time about forty helpless little ones were receiving every attention and kindness, by seeing four mere babies looking intently out of the window at every passer-by. The houses were bright with pictures and toys, and everything was well adapted to promote the health, comfort, and amusement of the little ones. The education of the elder children was not made burdensome; they had object lessons which engaged all their attention, and excited occasionally a good deal of merriment; they had plenty of singing, and they gave several simple melodies with clear articulation and in correct time; they had Bible lessons, and were enabled to answer every question we put promptly and truly. In a word, they were being well trained, and finding what, at their age, they most needed as helpless orphans—a happy home and loving care.

Since the year of our first visit, however, the little one has become a strong one, and "the day of small things" has ripened into an institution of more than ordinary magnitude and importance. The two houses have been vacated for eight cottages and a large central building giving full accommodation for 200 infants. The institution occupies a noble site on the brow of Hornsey-ridge; a healthier or more pleasant situation could scarcely have been selected. The cottages have extensive grounds belonging to them, and these, through the kindness of several friends, have been tastefully decorated with shrubs and plants, and have been so well stocked with garden and vegetable seeds, that there will be a plentiful supply of vegetables throughout the year. On entering the Orphanage last week, we were very kindly received by the

matron, Miss Ward, and soon found ourselves in the schoolroom, which resounded with the hum of infant voices. We were struck at once with the happy appearance of the children; with their really infantile character; with their instant obedience to their excellent teachers, with their interest in their lessons, and with their childish fearlessness in the presence of a stranger. One had only to reflect upon what might have been the probable fate of these children had not the hospitable doors of the Orphanage been opened to receive them, to feel very thankful that Mr. and Miss Soul did not shrink from the truly Herculean task which they took upon themselves when they resolved to set on foot this institution. When we came to examine the little pupils in the several branches of education to which their attention is directed—to use a holiday-letter phrase—we found that they could spell, with only here and there a mistake, "long" words. They could read distinctly, and with due regard to punctuation; the specimens of writing shown to us were admirable, and we are sure that the "figures" of many gentlemen of education, and, perhaps, some clerks in houses of business, would not have surpassed in clearness and boldness those which at our request were made on the black board. The little monitors were well up to their work, and could take a class through a sum in compound multiplication with speed and accuracy. In one class composed of infants who could scarcely speak plain a spelling-lesson was going on, under the direction of a monitor not much older than those she was instructing. She did her work with a dignity and gravity quite indescribable. Toddlers about the schoolroom, or more frequently finding the floor the safest place, were infants of four or five years of age, merry as crickets, and as much at home as if the schoolroom were their own nursery. When we examined the first class in Scripture history we were much pleased with the answers given, especially in one branch. Upon asking them to give the names of some of our Lord's miracles, each child in quick succession had his or her answer until we got nearly through the list. They sang two or three pretty pieces very sweetly, and then our visit to the schoolroom was brought to a close.

Upon inspecting the general arrangements of the institution we found them characterised by neatness and cleanliness. The sleeping apartments with their rows of beds, the staircase bright with birds, ornaments, pictures—all gifts, it should be remembered—are sights to be seen, and when seen will not soon be forgotten. But the sight of sights, perhaps, is the babies' room, where under the care of nurses may be seen those for whose protection the institution was erected. No one with a heart in his bosom can leave this room where helpless infancy is receiving a mother's care without feeling constrained to open his purse to contribute either of his abundance or his scarcity, to a charity which has such touching claims.

We regret to state that the past year has been one of great anxiety to the committee of the institution. First, there has been a good deal of sickness among the children. At one time there were as many as forty-nine cases of measles, and afterwards one case of smallpox; but, happily, in no case did illness prove fatal. In the case of smallpox, one of the nurses volunteered to be shut up with the infant in one of the yet unoccupied cottages, so that infection might not spread among the inmates. The plan adopted was successful. Another source of painful trial was the sudden claim of the builders for 2,901l. 3s. 2d., when it had been supposed that all the charges deemed right under the terms of the contract had been paid upon the usual certificate of the honorary architect, who refused to certify that more was due. The claim was resisted, and writs were issued against the treasurer, the hon. secretary, and twelve members of the committee of 1868. The matter was settled by a barrister's arbitration, who, by his award reduced the claim by nearly 1,000l., leaving 1,903l. 8s. 11d., half the costs of reference, and the costs up to the time of hearing, altogether 2,100l. In the course of a few hours, twenty-one gentlemen generously put down their names for 100l. each, and thus a great difficulty was providentially got over. A debt, however, of 9,500l. yet remains, and until it is liquidated the institution is only doing about half the work it is designed to do.

There are at present 118 infants in the Orphanage; but 100 more could be accommodated, for four out of the eight cottages erected are empty. These facts form an appeal which ought to do its own work, and produce a great increase to the funds of the institution. Another fact should carry weight with it. All the children are provided for upon leaving the Orphanage, and in some of our public charities finish their education, and are subsequently introduced into situations in which they may earn an honourable livelihood. Of the twenty-six children who have left, after continuing their full time, seventeen have been admitted into other institutions; thirteen into the Orphan Working School, principally through the influence and exertions of the Orphanage; one has been received into the London Orphan Asylum, another into the British, another into the Commercial Travellers School, one into the City of London Freeman's Orphan School, two have been removed by their friends, four remained their full time, and then returned to their mothers, who had remarried; three only have died during the six years the institution has existed.

It appears that the average annual cost of each child, including wages of servants and other charges is 17l. 10s. 7d.; the average cost for the house ex-

penses of each child is 13l. 19s. 8d. The total expenses of house, wages, printing, postages, advertisements, &c., amounted to 1,840l. 18s. 8d. Apart from the special effort by which the unexpected claims of builders were met, through twenty-one gentlemen, including Mr. Soul, generously putting down £100 each, the committee have had much to encourage them during a year of no ordinary trial. At the first public festival of the charity held a few weeks ago, a sum of 1,008l. 13s. 6d. was given in donations, and 40l. 8s. in new annual subscriptions. Lord George Hamilton presided on the occasion, and from his own observation spoke of the excellent working and management of the establishment. An anonymous donor also presented 1,000l., which came at a crisis when the exact sum was needed by the managers to meet demands upon them. Several clergymen and ministers have preached on behalf of the charity, and upwards of 60l. had been collected in this way—nearly enough to defray the support of five children, so far as the ordinary expenses of the house are concerned. This is one important means by which ministers of the Gospel of all denominations may greatly contribute to the success of the institution. It is pleasing to add that in several churches and chapels of the neighbourhood the little orphans are heartily welcomed, and that sittings are freely placed at their disposal. There are other and humbler ways by means of which help may be rendered—presents of books, particularly those containing plenty of pictures, will always be acceptable. One gentleman this year presented twelve volumes of the *Illustrated London News*, and some coloured prints—a boon indeed, to make many young eyes glisten with delight. If what we have written shall result in the institution finding new friends among our subscribers we shall be truly pleased. We have only to add that all its affairs are managed with the greatest economy. The only salaries paid are to the matron and the household, so that all its funds go to the support of the infants. As we have stated, the institution is unsectarian, various Christian bodies joining to promote its efficiency and success, and the infants, as we hope we have shown, are well instructed upon the best known system of early training.

NEW FOUNDATION DAY, MILL-HILL.

Wednesday, last week, though devoid of sunshine, brought a genial morning, which was heartily appreciated after the long winter of our summer discontent. In the pleasant neighbourhood of Mill-hill, though the air was heavy with a warm mist, the fields were fragrant, and the scent of newly-mown grass came with a refreshing whiff to nostrils long nipped by keen east winds. More pleasant, however, than the landscape, was the concourse of parents and friends, was the enthusiasm of more than a hundred of their sons and relatives, who, after a session of honest work, were cherishing holiday thoughts and schemes. It may have been our own thought, but this year there seemed to be more enthusiasm among our young friends than on former occasions. They have had the inspiration to work derived from a large increase of numbers. Under the able management of Dr. Weymouth, the school has suddenly revived, and there is no reason why, in numbers, educational power, and moral influence, it should not far surpass the palmiest days in its history.

What pleased us most in the opening of the proceedings in the chapel—is it not time that the ugliest four walls conceivable were knocked down, and the hardest seats man ever sat upon were chopped into firewood?—what pleased us most was the thorough boyish fervour with which each loved his neighbour not only as, but better than, himself. There was no jealousy of those who obtained prize after prize, but the heartiest congratulation that could be expressed by vigorous clapping of hands. Dr. Weymouth presided at the distribution of prizes, supported by Mr. Thomas Scrutton, and the Rev. H. R. Marten. Amongst those present were the Rev. T. Binney, the Rev. J. Viney, the Rev. A. Hannay, the Rev. W. Brock, the Rev. W. Gill, the Rev. T. Fison, the Rev. E. White, Mr. Chamberlain Scott, Mr. E. Pye-Smith, &c.

The following is the list of prizes awarded:—

PRIZE LIST—MIDSUMMER, 1871.

GENERAL FORM PRIZES.

- Sixth Form.—N. Micklem, Herschel's Astronomy and Arnett's Physics; T. C. Curwen, Goldsmith's Complete Works.
Fifth Form.—W. C. Pedler, Travels in the Levant; H. Tucker, Chaucer's England; A. Horne, Lives of Lyndhurst and Brougham; J. P. Lewis, Philip III.; A. Armitage, Pepys's Diary.
Upper Fourth Form.—C. Downing, Smith's Classical Dictionary; E. S. Weymouth, Chaucer's England; T. E. Scrutton, The Heavens; J. H. Best, History of the Ottoman Empire.
Lower Fourth Form.—J. Howard, Ti-Ping-Tien-Kwoh; E. B. Pressland, Insect World; C. S. Leckie, March to Magdala; H. H. Wills, the Rob Roy on the Jordan; W. C. Branscombe, History of the Ottoman Empire; P. C. Price, Paley's Natural Theology; T. A. Gurney, Rank and Talent.
Third Form.—H. W. Trenchard, Shakespeare; F. H. Thorpe, A Mission to Viti; A. W. Alcock, Fife and Drum; R. Homan, The Nile Tributaries of Abyssinia; J. S. Puckridge, Rank and Talent; A. Ivans, Giants and Dwarfs; A. A. Hannay, British Senators.
Second Form.—O. Puckridge, Oliver's Madagascar; Ritchie, Escape from Siberia; M. J. Michael, Clocks and Watches; R. Hocking, Mutiny at the Nore; J. W. Sharpe, Nugent's Lands; A. Mull, May-day.
First Form.—J. Hall, Rank and Talent; C. F. Grant,

Manners and Customs of the Israelites; C. E. Southwell, Tales of a Wayside Inn; — Ritchie, May-day.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

In Memoriam Prizes for passing the Cambridge Local Examination.

Seniors.—N. Micklem, Arago's Essays, and A. Armitage, Life of Hurd, with Honours; J. P. Lewis, Montesquieu's Grandeur des Romains; W. C. Pedler, Montesquieu's Grandeur des Romains.

Juniors.—A. Horne, Lexicon to Sophocles, and T. E. Scrutton, Lexicon to Sophocles, with honours; E. D. Marten, Life of Pizarro; M. F. Weymouth, Memorials of Canterbury; E. M. Gunn, Tales from Shakespeare; E. S. Weymouth, Tales from Shakespeare; J. H. W. West, Words of Wellington; P. G. Davis, Words of Wellington; W. B. Passmore, Nugent's Lands; C. Downing, Johnson, Hallam, &c.

In Memoriam Prizes to Scholars.—Seniors.—W. C. Pedler, Amenities of Literature; H. Tucker, Dewar's Divine Revelations; T. E. Scrutton, Kirke White, &c.; A. Horne, Beattie, &c.; C. Downing, Thomson's Poems. Juniors.—W. Marston, History of the Crusades; P. C. Price and F. H. Thorpe, Manners and Customs of the Israelites.

The Good-conduct Prize.—N. Micklem.

Latin Essay Prize, to the Sixth Form.—N. Micklem, Becker's Gallus.

English Literature Prize, to Juniors.—T. E. Scrutton.

English Verse Prize, to Seniors.—N. Micklem, Sheridan's Dramatic Works, and The Fifteen O's.

English Verse, to Juniors.—J. H. Best, Curiousities of Literature.

Mr. Chamberlain's Scott's Prize for Scripture Knowledge.—A. Armitage, Bagster's Polyglott.

The Treasurer's Prize for Writing.—N. Micklem.

The Secretary's Greek Testament Prize.—N. Micklem, Smith's Dictionary of the Bible.

Mr. Scott White's Prize for Greek Composition, to the Fourth Form.—E. S. Weymouth, Pictorial History of Greece.

The Early English Text Society's Prize.—N. Micklem.

Dr. Pye Smith and Mr. Stratten's Prize for Natural History.—W. C. Pedler, A. Armitage.

Mr. Murray's Prizes for Collections of Grasses.—H. Mellersh, R. Homan, A. C. Southwell.

Mr. Ernest Gill's Prizes for Instrumental Music.—A. C. Smith, Beethoven's Sonatas; H. Tucker, Schubert's Pianoforte Works.

Mr. Wallis Nash's Prizes for Singing.—Solo Singing.—J. Howard and A. C. Southwell, equal, The Messiah. Choral Singing.—Division A of the Choral Class.

Mr. Brightwell's Prizes for Drawing.—C. Homan, an oil-colour box; L. Pilkington.

The Silver Medal given by Old Boys for English Composition.—A. Horne.

Prize given by Old Boys for English Composition.—E. E. Miller.

The Bousfield Scholarship.—N. Micklem.

The prizes consisted of a number of elegantly bound books, and as will be seen from the titles were of a valuable character. Their money value perhaps might have been upwards of £60. As each boy advanced up the aisle to receive his prize, and the head master in presenting it addressed a few pleasant words to each young prizeman. The hero of the morning was Nathaniel Micklem, who carried off a large number of prizes, the "good conduct" prize as well. A special value was attached to it, because, we understand, it was the unanimous award of his own schoolfellows for his moral influence among them. When the distribution of prizes had been brought to a close, Dr. Weymouth earnestly addressed his pupils upon their future in life very much depending upon the character they formed at school. He besought them all to feel a deep interest in maintaining its moral tone.

The company then adjourned for a pleasant half hour's stroll in the grounds, and then went in to partake of an elegant luncheon provided by Mr. Simpson, of Oxford-street. JOHN STORRAR, M.D., Chairman of Convocation of the University of London, presided over a goodly array of ladies and gentlemen. The National Anthem having been sung in response to the toast of "The Queen."

The CHAIRMAN said he felt no ordinary pleasure in proposing for their acceptance the toast of "The Head Master." (Cheers.) He said there were two conditions essentially necessary to a good school. The first of these was a good master, and him they possessed; the second was earnestness on the part of parents, and if the papas and mammas present would not think him hitting them too hard, he would urge upon them the importance of seconding the efforts of the head master. Want of earnestness on their part was the chief difficulty which any schoolmaster could have to contend with. If they looked as much to the education as to the comfort of their boys, Mill Hill School would soon rank as high as any similar institution in the kingdom. Already Dr. Weymouth had given remarkable proof of his ability as a teacher, and there was no reason except want of space why the school should not continue to increase as it had hitherto done under his superintendence. (Cheers.)

The HEAD MASTER, who was received with loud cheers, returned thanks for the kind manner in which his name had been proposed and received. It was quite true that, within two years, the school had risen from zero to 115 boys, who were actually under that roof at that moment. This was a source of no ordinary congratulation. He was happy to state that the general health of the school during the past year had been good, and this was owing in no small degree to the attention of Mr. Blason, their medical officer, and to the solicitude of their excellent matron, Miss Cooke. (Cheers.) The general character of the boys, too, was worthy of all praise; in fact, their conduct had warranted him in allowing a large measure of liberty during hours of recreation to any two boys together going out into the surrounding neighbourhood. The

assistant-masters had ably co-operated with him in carrying on the work of the school, and maintaining a high, moral tone. The work of the monitors also in this direction deserved his warmest acknowledgments. The school work of the year exhibited marks of improvement and industry. Two of the boys had earned the honour of having their names recorded on the tablets, on which the names of past and present scholars who had distinguished themselves were enrolled. These two had successfully passed the matriculation examination at the University of London, an examination of a higher character, and involving more severe work than that required for the B.A. degree at Oxford or Cambridge local examination held at the London University in December last; fourteen passed, of whom four were seniors, and ten juniors. Even had six out of the seventeen failed, the school would still have been above the average of the whole country; whereas only three had failed, and two seniors and two juniors had passed in honours. He hoped the next examination would be yet more successful; it would be made upon the spot, he having obtained the consent of the Syndicate at Cambridge to make Mill-hill a local centre. Still it should be the ambition of the boys to look higher than a local examination, and not to rest content until they had secured a degree from the University of London. While fair attention had been paid to classics and mathematics, the boys had also studied drawing in various styles, to botany, entomology, &c., and specimens of their skill might be seen in several of the rooms. In conclusion, he said the library needed to be enlarged, and asked for contributions of really good books. Perhaps next year he might even plead for an organ in the chapel. He heartily thanked the company for their presence that morning, and for the manner in which they had received the toast. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN in proposing the next toast, "Prosperity to Mill-hill School," said that before long it became a question for the governors to consider whether they should not provide accommodation for 300 boys. He referred to a conversation he had had with a Cambridge man of high eminence upon the reason why so many candidates were "plucked" at the London University examinations and so few at Cambridge? The answer which the Cambridge man gave was significant:—"You put questions, and reject the men that can't answer them; we don't put the questions for fear we should have to reject them." (Cheers and laughter.)

The Rev. T. BINNEY, who was received with loud cheers, said he could not look at the portrait in the bottom of the room—that of his father-in-law, Mr. Piper—without feeling that he had many associations with Mill-hill School, and he could not but rejoice in its reviving prosperity. He recalled with melancholy satisfaction that forty years ago, on a public day like the present, he had met a young man then acting as secretary, and whose death had recently been announced in the public journals. In a book which he (Mr. Binney) had written, entitled "From Seventeen to Thirty," and which he wished all of them would read—(laughter)—he had given a sketch of the subsequent history of this young man, and how he had risen to a post of great eminence and trust. He had not given the name of this young man in the book, but it need be no longer a secret now that he was gone; he had referred to Sir John Rolt. (Cheers.) He cordially sympathised with Dr. Weymouth on the success which had attended his efforts, and as cordially wished "Prosperity to Mill-hill School."

Mr. JOSEPH PAYNE, pointing through the window to Harrow-on-the-Hill, predicted that ere long that celebrated school would find a powerful rival in the one, the second anniversary of whose new Foundation day they were that morning celebrating.

Mr. E. PYE SMITH responded on behalf of the "Old Boys," and was followed by the Rev. E. WHITE on the same toast. The latter referred to the importance of the head master's remarks upon the enlargement and improvement of the library, and also to the value of the Bible-class conducted by him on Sundays.

The remaining toasts were "The Chairman" and "The Ladies." Mr. Chamberlain Scott responding on behalf of the latter. Afterwards there was a concert given in the chapel, Mr. Gill, one of the masters, presiding at the harmonium. All the arrangements of the day were admirably carried out; visitors from town were met at the station by carriages and omnibuses, and conveyed at the close of the day's proceedings.

FALL OF A CHAPEL AT BOLTON.—Some alarm was caused in the neighbourhood of Higher Bridge-street, Bolton, on Sunday morning, by the fall of the roof of a chapel belonging to the Primitive Methodists. The building, which was a stone structure, capable of seating some 400 persons, was erected in 1836, and had been continuously occupied up to February last. About that time it was noticed that the foundation of one of the walls had given way, and the congregation decided to use the new schools which had just been erected in Egyptian-street, until the chapel could be rebuilt, a work which was expected to be commenced next year. The giving way of the foundation was attributed to some excavations in the neighbourhood. About five o'clock on Sunday morning the ceiling fell in, and this was followed shortly before twelve o'clock by the destruction of the roof. Fortunately no one was about the premises. The gallery, as well as all the pews in the chapel, have been demolished, and the wall on one side had been forced out of the perpendicular.

Literature.

MILTON'S LIFE AND TIMES.*

[First Notice.]

Those who enjoyed the first volume of Mr. Masson's "Life of Milton," with its rich fund of information, its careful accuracy as to the minutest details of the poet's story found in rare combination with a thorough appreciation of his great genius, its vivid pictures of the times in which he lived, and its hearty sympathy with the cause of freedom of which he was so illustrious an ornament, will be glad to receive a second instalment of what is a really great work, and still more, to have an assurance that the completion will not long be delayed. The period which has elapsed since the appearance of the first portion had led us almost to fear that it might remain a fragment, and, therefore, on receiving the second volume we are glad to have with it the assurance that the third is ready for the press, and will follow speedily. Though the author tells us, with some approach to an expression of disappointment, that "if these had been any extraordinary or universal avidity for the continuation, it might have been forthcoming sooner," we have little doubt that when the completed work is before the world he will have no reason to regret that want of appreciation which appears to be implied here. The first appearance of the book to those who do not fully read the title, and regard it therefore simply as a biography of Milton, is somewhat formidable. It is necessary only that the title should be carefully read, and the design of the work thoroughly appreciated, to have the impression removed. In giving us the story of Milton "in connection with the history of his time," Mr. Masson has supplied a most valuable addition to the historic literature of the period, and that period the most heroic in our English history. The biography indeed, is complete in itself, and that to an extent which ought to satisfy the most enthusiastic admirer of the great poet, yet Milton is only the central object in a picture into which are introduced all the men of the time he played so prominent a part. He was on terms of such intimacy with the great popular leaders, did so much by his pen to advance their principles, that there is nothing unnatural in this union of general history with the biography of the man. Indeed, our author justly says, "no one can study the life of Milton as it ought to be studied, without being obliged to study, extensively and intimately, the contemporary history of England, and even incidentally of Scotland and Ireland too. Experience has confirmed my previous conviction that it must be so. Again and again in order to understand Milton, his position, his motives, his thoughts by himself, his public words to his countrymen, and the probable effect of those words, I have had to stop in the mere biography and range round, largely and windingly, in the history of his time, not only as it is presented in well-known books, but as it had to be rediscovered by express and laborious investigation in original and forgotten records." The justification is complete, and no intelligent reader will regret the course which Mr. Masson has pursued in thus suffering a biography to become a history in his hands.

The history cannot be told too often, if only it be told by one who is diligent enough to carry on researches of his own, and so cast new light upon any of its stirring pages, careful and discriminating enough to sift out the truth from the mass of conflicting statements, in sufficient sympathy with the champions of liberty to do justice to their clear-sightedness and firmness, and with sufficient boldness to shatter, if needs be, some of the objects of a party's, or even a nation's, idolatry. Mr. Masson has all these qualifications. Every page bears some trace of the persevering toil which he has brought to the prosecution of his enterprise, and of the care with which he has gone through the public and private records of the time. His, indeed, is not a mere "popular compilation" of facts collected by others, but the result of protracted study of his own, in the course of which he has examined many documents hitherto inaccessible or overlooked, and brought to light facts before unknown. His great aim has been accuracy, for he rightly judges that without it history were but as "sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." And the more we get at the truth, the more do we find to condemn in the conduct of Charles and his advisers, the more to honour in the bold and courageous resistance of those to whom England is so largely indebted

* *Life of Milton in connection with the History of his Times.* Vol. II. By DAVID MASSON, M.A., LL.D. (Macmillan and Co.)

for the freedom she enjoys. Mr. Masson has no idea of glossing over any facts, and he does not develop them the less clearly because they detract from the reputation of one who has stood high in public favour. Thus, among the prelates of the day, there is not one, perhaps, who has been more respected than Bishop Hall. He has been held up as a model of that moderation which is sure to expose a man to trouble in such excited times, and we have been invited to honour the man who, in the time of Laud's greatness, was so faithful to Protestant principles that he incurred the Primate's displeasure, and yet in the hour of the Puritan triumph showed himself so loyal a son of the Church of England that he suffered on her behalf. If we were to trust this representation, we should suppose him a mild, inoffensive minister of Christ, who was too intent on spiritual things to concern himself with mundane politics, and too much absorbed in the special duties of his office to entangle himself even with ecclesiastical controversy, a man of peace who sighed over the discord and confusion around him, and so became the victim of each party in turn. Mr. Masson has a different tale to tell, and finds in a bigoted effusion of this good man against Presbyterianism one of the chief provoking causes of the short, but, for the Royal and Episcopal party, most unfortunate Bishops' War. We regret to learn first, that though there was a time when Hall had opposed Laud, yet, that his feelings had changed and he had come to adopt an opposite policy, not only approximating to his views but even "toadying him in secret." So grave a statement is not made without authority, for Mr. Masson speaks on the faith of documents he has himself examined. "I have seen disagreeable private letters of information written by him to Laud respecting 'nests of sectaries in London whom it would be well to extirpate; and my distinct impression is that in his conduct generally, and even in his writings, when carefully examined, there will be found a meaner element than our literary dilettanti and antiquaries have been able to discover in so celebrated a bishop." This is not a pleasant revelation in relation to one of the few bishops of that day whom we have been accustomed to regard with respect; but his proceedings at the time in question, certainly corroborate this view. He was offended by reading the report of the Scotch General Assembly, and specially by the undoubted victory which these sturdy Presbyterians of the North had secured, and so great was his excitement that he at once wrote to Laud, suggesting various plans for dealing with their errors, amongst others proposing that a select committee of bishops should undertake to supply the answer to their Presbyterian vagaries. Laud cleverly contrives to evade this proposal, and to devolve the duty of this dealing with these Calvinists of the North upon Hall himself. It is not pleasant to find this prelate, with his previous reputation for Calvinistic sympathies, undertaking the task, and still less so to see how completely he allows himself to be made the tool of the crafty Primate in the matter. At first Laud professes to allow his subordinate to enjoy perfect liberty in the matter, but, in the course of a curious and characteristic correspondence, which our author has examined, he gradually succeeds in making him a mere reflection of his own views, and the result was a pamphlet very unworthy of Bishop Hall, and one destined to exert an influence very different from that which he and his superior would have desired. It is melancholy to see how real goodness is thus compatible with much moral weakness. The Bishop was undoubtedly a man of great Christian excellence, but his sympathies were narrowed and his better feelings warped by devotion to the interests of his order, and when he had to deal with one of so resolute a spirit as Laud, he was easily overcome.

This volume covers a very interesting period, both in the history and the biography. It begins with the first outburst of Presbyterian discontent in Scotland; it tells the story of the Bishops' War and the Short Parliament; it narrates once more the history of the opening of the Long Parliament, and of the eventful transactions of its first twenty-two months; it describes the proceedings of the first year of the Civil War, and the meeting of the Westminster Assembly, and it concludes with a book, one of the noblest in the volume, devoted to the history of Independency up to 1643. During this period Milton had been called into full activity. We find him at its commencement just returned from his continental travels, meeting at once with personal griefs and public difficulties, overwhelmed with sorrow because of the loss of his beloved friend Diodati, and giving new proof of his genius in the exquisite poetic tribute which he pays to his memory. His purpose is to devote himself to literary pursuits, and he has various

grand schemes floating before him. Mr. Masson has found seven pages in the precious MS. volume of his preserved in Trinity College, Cambridge, covered with his jottings on subjects which had suggested themselves to his mind. They are taken partly from Scripture, partly from British history, and among them are to be found the germs of his great work. We are glad to have them here given in full, although we half fear that they may awake in some poor postaster the desire to work on some of the lines here marked out. It is very interesting, however, to mark this process of incubation in the poet's brain, not yet, however, destined to result in the sort of work he had proposed to himself. He was, indeed, to write a great epic poem, the greatest his country has yet produced, but between him and the achievement of this great object of his ambition there lay an even nobler work which he had to perform. The character of the times demanded that every man who had the will and the power to speak in vindication of truth and liberty should not remain silent; and by the very pressure of his convictions Milton was forced into the struggle. His opinions and sympathies were all with the "Root and Branch," party to whose first petition Mr. Masson thinks it possible his name may have been attached. He had studied the writings on the Episcopal controversy, which were so plentiful; and when the time came he joined eagerly in the fray in those memorable pamphlets, which are a lasting memorial of his wonderful eloquence, and of his intense sympathy with liberty. Mr. Masson's account of the controversy is complete and interesting, but to a more detailed examination of it and the other parts of this interesting volume we shall return in a future article. Meanwhile we can only express our gratitude to the author alike for the spirit and ability of his work. Its literary excellence entitles it to take its place in the first ranks of our literature, while the whole style of its execution marks it as the only book that has done anything like adequate justice to one of the great masters of our language, and one of our truest patriots, as well as our greatest epic poet.

"BENONI BLAKE, M.D."*

The author of "Peasant Life in the North" has written a powerful story in some respects; but, notwithstanding, he has fallen into a mistake. His former stories were unique, simply because whilst the interest was often of the intensest kind, there was little incident, little variety of situation, and little range of expression on the part of his characters, by which to make the interest dramatically visible. His short stories, therefore, did not allow unlimited indulgence in the tendency which we guessed to be over strong in him from the first. This is the overweening determination to subjectively interpret his characters—to analyse, apologise for, explain away, or justify motives. Even in "Peasant Life," dramatic development simply ran counter to some of his oft-repeated reflections and moralising; in "Benoni Blake, M.D." we simply have a hybrid, very strong and very well developed; but still only such. It is not every story-teller who can afford to follow Thackeray in his confirmed self-reflection, which on one side was only cynical; certainly it will require very great power indeed to enable a man to do so while dealing with such life as we have in a quiet Scotch village like "Glenaldie."

There is no deep dramatic purpose in "Benoni Blake, M.D.," and there is a sad lack of incident. In truth, the central interest is little wider or deeper than that of some of the former short stories—"The Dandy Drainer," for example. Presented in this simple, unambitious form it would have been very effective, concentrated, and had a unity of its own as the others had. The author has got length by gratifying the one passion he has need to curb. The book is made up of slow, detailed analysis of conditions and moods of mind; and the characters seem so chosen, indeed, as to make this absolutely predominating in the first portion. The uncommunicative father of the hero—the minister of the parish—consumed by love for the son which he cannot express in any outward form of word or caress,—the son, on the other hand, plainly saying, when other good prospects are held out to him, that he "wants to be loved,"—do not at first at all convey themselves to the reader somehow; the author is in a perpetual attitude of bowing and introducing them. We really feel a kind of reactionary interest in the "Minister's man," who edges out his familiar yet respectful remarks in the pawkiest and most cautious manner possible; and we take ourselves severely to task for wishing to know more of him, and the housekeeper and the rest of these commonplace creatures, even when we are on

* *Benoni Blake, M.D.* By the Author of "Peasant Life in the North." (Strahan and Co.)

the road to be introduced to such folk as the Fanfares—that great county family, whose head—Sir James, could yet endure that a gardener should chase him with a stable-fork, because the man wrought for low wages. The author deals with this sort of life not uncleverly, but somehow, coming in here as it does, it somewhat spoils the unity of his story.

There can be no question about the author's knowledge of human nature, nor of his power to embody it. Only just now he seems determined to do as little as he can in the way of dialogue and as much as he can in the way of analysis. His way of looking at things is unconsciously artificial and has much the blame of this: he is really a sentimentalist who tries to be cynical. The dramatic outcome of these stories, in which he has most obtrusively indulged his semi-cynical remarks, has been sentimental, as in "Muckle Jock," and not less so in the case of "Benoni Blake," where, in spite of his remarks about the silliness of his hero's early passion for Bessie Thomson—the farmer's daughter—that passion was justified by his final return to his first love, and a most happy marriage. Let us justify ourselves here.

This is the way in which our author writes near the opening of his book:—

"You see what pitiful nonsense this matter of love is: how it makes fools of us all. One of my critics says that I am not orthodox regarding love. But I will have no orthodoxy other than the truth of facts. And surely you will agree with me that if young Blake, of whom now you know something, had tied himself in an engagement on Tuesday last with my sweet Bessie Thomson, he would have done an unwise thing. It would not have been done in orthodox love, which I suspect is only for the poets and critics, but simply in a foolish mood, a silly frame of mind, which needed not a wife to cure it, but only a little change of scene. Is it orthodox, I wonder, to say that love is mostly self-delusive, and, to the sensitive soul, self-torture?"

And then take the following at the very close:—

"'Happiness is of God's appointment,' said Mrs. Blake, decisively. . . .

"'It is of Divine appointment; but God mysteriously acts through woman sometimes.' . . .

"'You rogue, papa! . . .

"'You only kept me waiting for happiness fifteen not twenty years—a most material error, my dear,' said he, laughing and stroking the head of little Bessie, who had got upon his knee."

So, Dr. Blake found his happiness in marrying Bessie Thomson, then. His true fortune lay in his having done the silliest thing of his life—having "tied himself in an engagement with sweet Bessie Thomson." His unhappiness lay, not in his loving Bessie, but in his being unstable, which is surely altogether another thing. It is this writer's habit, it would seem, to sprinkle his pages with half-satirical remarks, in which he appears to be laughing in his sleeve at a great many things; but he is a downright good fellow for all that, and works out his story to prove that true orthodox love is its own reward; only he has a weakness for wanting us to fancy that he is very knowing, wicked, and satirical. And a weakness it is; for his stories would be still more attractive, and command a wider range of appreciative readers, if he would forego this.

In the writing of the present work, he is apparently resolved that no one shall fancy he has any weakness, or any sympathy, other than what is either contemptuous or pitiful, for the weaknesses of humanity. And so he harps and harps on the old string about the folly and the silliness of love. He breaks in upon his story at an interesting point to refer, as we have seen to orthodox critics, which certainly is not only inartistic, but is *infra dig.* for such a writer. Or is it that he wishes to teach anew, and in more artistic fashion, that "marriages are made in heaven"?—a very old text—only he must take care else it may be that he will yet be convicted of a worse Calvinism than that which, if we can judge, he is inclined to condemn! Enough now, let us see the other side.

Here we have nearly all the humour, pathos, and exquisite characterisation which marked the best of the short stories. It is clear that our author has all the faculty for that self-control and self-repression which are so essential to the true artist. He seems to follow a bad example, and should abandon it. Let him trust himself to pourtray, and all will be well. Readers will get plenty of moralising from inferior hands; he can give them better stuff. What could be finer than the way in which the vulgar-wily baronet Fanfare manages to extract the confession from the old minister as to the little hoard he had invested for the burly son, which he has heretofore kept so secret; and what could be more faithful than the reticent, secluded, undemonstrative old man's self-doubtfulness and self-condemnation when the baronet had gone. Such men, when they are in the hands of 'cute persons, always feel that they are wise just a single moment too late; and the fact of having so nearly escaped adds a sting to

the bitter self-accusations, just as one is all the more chagrined at losing a train, if he is at the station door as it moves away. And then the poor old minister's desire, after reflecting that Benoni was sure to hear speedily of his fortune, to tell the young man of his provident concern for him and his inability to do so, is capably rendered.

At that moment the father would have given all he possessed for strength to throw himself on the lad's neck, crying, 'Oh! my son!' The minister was indeed discomposed, sorely troubled. He loved the lad very dearly, yet he had so acted under the influence of circumstances and of habit that the lad did not know his love. It was clear that, even in his yearning for affection, he counted not his father's heart as one of the possible sources of the love he cried out for. And then, that money! Could the lad believe otherwise, even if the father now went, saying, 'Lo! all that I have is thine,' than that for all these unlamented years, he, the father, had loved Mammon much, his son not at all? Nay, was it not certain that, in his contempt for riches, the youth would regard with aversion both the bribe and the briber who would approach his heart with a tale of bank stock.

The minister, however, fairly broke down, able neither to make any such overture of love, nor to face his son all that night. So, when the hour for worship came, he came not into the dining-room with 'the books.' Nannie brought his instructions that the doctor should read, and that the singing and prayer should be transacted by John. It is only justice to the memory of old John here to state that he availed himself of his gifts to the full, singing many stanzas, and praying for full half an hour, until Benoni, wearied on his knees, happened to stretch out his leg, and accidentally to molest him in the rear. John subsequently confessed to Nannie, who scolded him for his protracted performances on the plea that the minister's gruel was late, that he 'was thankful' for the doctor's hint; for when the spirit was upon him, he didna ken when to stop o' himself."

Benoni must certainly visit his father in his bedroom, yet it was after much conflict within that he did it. But, tapping at the bedroom door, he was told to enter, and did so.

"'You are ailing, sir,' he said.

"'Oh, it is nothing! I was put about by that visit to-day. A sleep will compose me.'

"'Do you think I can do anything for you?'

"'Nothing, my son.'

"So the young man stood silently for a few minutes, staring at the old parental breeches, stretched lankly across a chair's back; then he said 'Good-night,' and retired."

The book is full of such quiet, realistic touches as we have here. It is natural, unaffected, and healthy writing. In spite of some of our criticisms, we cannot leave the book without seriously recommending it to our readers, assured as we are that they will rise from its perusal with many new ideas of life, and certainly with enlarged sympathies, which is, after all, the chief thing.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Poor Artist; or Seven Eyeglasses and one Object. By R. H. HORNE, Author of "Orion," &c. Second Edition, with a preliminary Essay on the Varieties of Vision in Man. (Van Voorst).—Mr. Horne's tale of the poor artist, in which he managed to combine in the most pleasant way, the communication of a great deal of scientific truth, with a most graceful play of fancy, has been very highly spoken of. It is the work of a poet. It is full of delicate and ingenious conceptions; and the whole is cast in a most artistic and effective form. What, however, gives the new edition most value is, perhaps, the essay on eyesight in man. Mr. Horne has collected many instances, and has most graphically recited them. He ranges freely through a world of details, and communicates what supports his principle in a most attractive style. Excepting some of Dr. George Wilson's essays, we do not remember to have read anything recently of more interest from the scientific-artistic point of view. The two following passages will give a notion of his manner:—

"As for the charge of a mass of cavalry, the very weight in tons of so many horses and men, with arms and harness, must break any square of infantry if it were the shock of a dead weight. But the men and horses are alive, and use their eyes, and something causes a check as they dash upon the foremost bayonets. If masses of timber of the weight of only one or two hundred cavalrymen and horses were rapidly propelled against an infantry square of any number, open or solid, no human wall could withstand such a shock."

And again:—

"But the power of the eye is yet more strikingly illustrated by the fact, that when two bodies of infantry meet in a charge of bayonets, the front rank, on one side or the other, almost invariably gives way directly the bayonets are crossed, that is, before the cold steel enters the body of either party. The front ranks giving way, the rear ranks are generally broken, and a rout ensues. The dreadful passion and fixed resolve in the eyes of the front rank on one side overpowers that of their antagonists, whose hearts fail before them. Calculations have been made to supersede this, by the order that each soldier's bayonet shall not take the man directly in front of him in the enemy's ranks, but the next man to the left. A systematic mutuality of reliance was thus provided for, and the effect of the enemy's eye superseded. It was a horribly clever idea. But in vain; the eye of the weaker will only slimmers and wavers between the two—trembles for the midriff—and no doubt gives the 'preference' to the man whose bayonet-point is within a few inches of the *jeu de milieu*. Between the two he generally falls, or takes to flight. The single-minded glare of the devil of war reflects the prefulgent horror of the cold steel-point.

It is remarkable, on examining the dead bodies on a field of battle after there has been a successful charge of bayonets, how few have been killed by the point in charging thrusts. The men have died from thrusts during flight, or from the clubbed (i.e. butt-end) blows, or pierced when on the ground, or have been trampled to death."

The volume, it should be mentioned, is got up with such skill and chaste taste as to make it very suitable for a present.

Spring Comedies. By Lady BARKER, Author of "Station Life in New Zealand," &c. (Macmillan.) These stories are slight enough with regard to the elements which are now most in demand among novel readers. But there is a simple grace and truth in them. They do not aim so much at dramatic breadth or depth, as at narrative sweetness and truth. Occasionally there is a fine touch at once of humour and character, as when, in the "Wedding Story," John Saville tries to comfort Kenneth for his love disappointment, by hurrying forward his own marriage, and assuring his friend that that would surely bring the girl to her senses! All the stories show much the same characteristics. They are so elevated and pure in tone, that they are very well suited for young persons' reading; for which we presume they were meant. We have, for our part, experienced a sense of healthy freshness in their perusal which leads us to hope that they would please and be useful to others also.

Pioneers and Founders; or, Recent Workers in the Mission Field. By C. M. YONGE, Author of the "Heir of Rolcliffe," &c. (Macmillan.) This is another volume of that very excellent series "The Sunday Library." Miss Yonge has treated her topics with great freshness. Her subject, however, is far too wide to allow her to give any adequate picture of the work of any one of the missionaries; while yet she has striven after detail instead of aiming at gathering up the spirit of the work in one or two scenes or picturesque touches. Hence there is from first to last a feeling of over condensation. Miss Yonge would have required two volumes to have allowed her to treat her characters adequately. This may be readily judged when we say that in the compass of 300 pages she has undertaken to give a sketch of the work of Henry Martyn, John Elliot, David Brainerd, Christian Frederick Schwartz, Carey and Marshman, the Judsons, Bishops Middleton, Heber, and Wilson, of Calcutta, Samuel Marsden, John Williams, Allen Gardiner, and Bishop Mackenzie. But Miss Yonge's pliant and graceful style atones for much. She arranges her materials well. All the fault we are inclined to find is on her own account; she might have made so much more important an appearance before the public for the careful and honest work she has gone through in order to produce this interesting and pleasant volume.

Clara Delamaine. A Novel. By A. W. CUNNINGHAM. Three Vols. (Hurst and Blackett.) A story of indisputable merit, written clearly by a man who knows good society at home, and who has "roughed" it to some extent in New Zealand and Australia. There is an unmistakable smack of reality about the descriptions of places, and the knowledge of character has evidently been obtained by mixing largely with the various classes to be met with in a colonial settlement. There is a very good plot, but rather abruptly run up at the close; and plenty of incident, sometimes of a sufficiently sensational quality. The style is good, and some of the characters are well hit off. There is a smack of humour about the Scotch doctor and his great "preserved meat scheme"; the heroine, a self-willed beauty, whose self-will, however, is not sufficient to save her altogether from the designs of a thorough-paced villain—is very well developed; and John Roper alias Dawson seems to us like his class, although, to tell the truth, we know but little of it. Mrs. Parker, the stiffly religious companion, who is hypocritical almost without knowing it; and Mr. Murray and Charles Delamaine, are all well conceived. The story is not interfered with, and the book padded out, by moral reflection, or anything of that kind. Sometimes we have a glimpse of real humour, as in the description of the heroine's farewell visit to the Maori pal. It is risky to introduce insanity even incidentally in a novel; but Mr. Cunningham has kept as far as possible from danger by making the insanity of his character—"Mrs. Godfrey"—to consist in an innocent delusion which might almost consist with sanity. Altogether, we have read this dashing novel with pleasure, and are quite sure that others will do the same. But when Mr. Cunningham writes again he should beware of too closely pressed incidents, and should give a little more attention to faithful delineation of character, for which he has decided faculty.

A KNOWING OLD LADY.—An old lady who was in the habit of declaring, after the occurrence of any event, that she had predicted it, was one day cleverly "sold" by her worthy spouse, who, like many others we wot of, had got tired of hearing her eternal "I told you so." Rushing into the house, breathless with excitement, he dropped into a chair, elevated his hands, and exclaimed:—"Oh, my dear, what do you think? The old cow has gone and eaten up our grindstone." The old lady was ready, and, hardly waiting to bear the last word, she screamed out at the top of her lungs—"I told you so! I told you so! You always would let it stand out o' doors."

Miscellaneous.

The Social Science Congress is to be held at Leeds in the ensuing autumn. The sittings begin on the 4th of October.

Miss Rye sailed on Thursday from Liverpool for Montreal, taking with her 113 female pauper children.

The Ulster farmers have been greatly alarmed at the prospect of an almost total failure of the flax crop, caused chiefly by the insufficiency of rain. We hope they are now more cheerful.

The North Metropolitan Tramway's Company have opened another section of their City line—viz., from the Angel, Islington, to Finsbury. The further extension, to the Bank, will be opened almost immediately.

The Bank of England directors, on Thursday, lowered the official rate of discount from 2½ per cent. (at which it has stood since April 13), to 2½. An alteration of only a ½ per cent. is very unusual.

On visiting Limerick, on Saturday, the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland was presented with an address by the corporation, which stated that the vast agricultural district of which that city was the capital now enjoyed peace and contentment through recent legislation.

EMANUEL COLLEGE.—On Monday the Court of Aldermen unanimously resolved to petition both Houses of Parliament, praying them to exercise the powers conferred upon them by the Endowed Schools Act to prevent the scheme of the Endowed Schools Commissioners for the future administration of Lady Dacre's charity from becoming law.

THE ALBERT LIFE COMPANY.—Lord Cairns, as arbitrator under the Albert Life Assurance Company's Act, on Thursday gave judgment respecting the claims for indemnity against the undertaking by five companies amalgamated with it. The question was whether the shareholders of the Albert were subject to an unlimited liability to indemnify these companies. His lordship held that the latter were entitled to an indemnity, limited, however, to the funds and assets of the Albert. They must therefore take their place with the other creditors.

THE AMERICAN GIANTS.—The church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields was on Saturday morning filled by a crowd curious to witness the ceremony of marriage between Captain Martin van Buren Bates and Miss Anna Swan, the "giant and giantess" who have lately been holding receptions at Willis's Rooms. Of the two the bride is said to be considerably the tallest. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. Rupert Cochrane, M.A., of St. George's, Hanover-square, after which the wedded couple signed the register in the vestry. Millie-Christine, "the two-headed Nightingale," was present.

THE LONDON COMMUNISTS.—About 1,000 English and Irish Democrats were engaged on Sunday morning for two or three hours in a noisy wrangle on Clerkenwell-green respecting the doings of the Paris Communists. The English speakers generally eulogised the acts of the Commune, though some regret was expressed at the shooting of the hostages, for which, however, M. Thiers was held to be mainly responsible. The Irish, on the other hand, bitterly denounced the Commune. One speaker declared them to be "bloodthirsty scoundrels and assassins without one redeeming quality," and read an extract from the letter of Mazzini denouncing the Communists as assassins and wild beasts. Mr. Hennessy, President of the Land and Labour League, justified the insurrection in Paris, but said he could not endorse the conduct of the Commune. The latter, by shooting the hostages, and the Versailles Government, by shooting down the people, as they had done, had both placed themselves outside all sympathy.

WORKING MEN'S CLUBS.—Lord Lyttelton, the Rev. Mr. Solly, Sir Harcourt Johnstone, M.P., and other friends of working men's clubs, waited upon Mr. Bruce on Saturday afternoon to ask the Government that real *bond fide* clubs of this class should be protected either by means of a clause in any bill Mr. Bruce might have to lay before Parliament, or by instructions to the Inland Revenue Department. The deputation thought a distinction should be drawn between these clubs and the merely sham clubs got up for the benefit of unlicensed publicans as means of evading the licensing laws. Mr. Solly stated that the real clubs did not flourish anywhere so well as where the working man could obtain his glass of refreshment, and the effect of allowing the clubs to supply the liquor had been the means of lessening the evils of drinking habits, for the working man was not canvassed for orders and urged to drink in the club as in the public-house. Mr. Bruce said that attention was being given to the subject, with the view that the Government should suppress what was mischievous without interfering with what was good.

THE HALFPENNY POSTAGE.—Nearly nine months' experience of the halfpenny postage does not appear to have belied the anticipations respecting it. There are no such signs of a serious diminution of postal revenue as had been predicted—although a loss of 50,000*l.* was caused by the abolition of the newspaper stamp—while the development of the postal service has only been in proportion to public requirements. It is clear that the Post Office administrators were prepared for a large addition of work. In the first six months of the new rates upwards of 58,000,000 post-cards, and about 114,000,000 halfpenny labels and stamped wrappers were issued. In one direction, however, the anticipation of the authorities appear not to have been

verified by results. The quantity of paper sent in by the public to receive the impressed stamp appears to have fallen far short of the estimate, the number of stamps impressed being only in the proportion of 10 per cent. to the wrappers supplied at Somerset House. The six months' issue of the halfpenny postage was as follows:—½d. postage labels, 77,215,680—duty, 160,866*l.*; ½d. post-cards, 58,485,960, 121,845*l.*; ½d. wrappers, 33,048,420, 68,850*l.*—*Globe*.

VACCINATION BILL.—A bill to amend the Vaccination Act of 1867 has been printed. It bears the names of Mr. W. E. Forster and Mr. Baxter. One of its provisions is that the vaccination officer shall perform all the duties imposed by the principal Act upon the registrar of births and deaths, except the duty of giving the notices mentioned in section 15 of the Act. Certificates of children being unfit for or insusceptible of vaccination are to be sent to the vaccination officer, and every registrar of births and deaths is to transmit once at least in every month to the vaccinating officer of his district a list of births and deaths of infants under twelve months of age. No parent is to be liable for penalties for neglecting to have a child vaccinated if he has already been fined the full penalty of 20*s.*, or if he has twice previously been fined for the offence.

A FENIAN ATTACK ON MILITIA BARRACKS.—The militia barracks at Mallow have been broken into by Fenians, and about 120 stand of arms abstracted. According to a Dublin telegram the entrance was effected so quietly that it was not for a considerable time that the attention of the sentinel was attracted. At last, however, he discovered that two men stationed outside the building were receiving the arms from a third who was inside. The sentinel at once fired, and the guard turned out, but the three men escaped. Intelligence of the affair having been despatched to Cork, large bodies of police were sent to Mallow, and the town and district were narrowly searched. Forty stand of arms were found in a field close to the barracks. Many men were arrested, and fifteen were brought up before the magistrates on Monday. The prisoners, on their way to Cork Gaol, were loudly cheered. The suspicion which was attached to some militiamen appears not to have been well founded. On the contrary, the robbery was clearly committed by persons unacquainted with the premises. It is thought the attack was part of a concerted movement, including simultaneous attacks on Kinsale and Brandon Militia Barracks.

THE IRISH EDUCATION SYSTEM.—The report of the Irish Board of National Education for 1870 indicates that the system has not suffered injury from the agitation lately directed against it. There is an increase of 7,664 pupils on the rolls, and nearly a million of children in Ireland are now under teaching for a greater or less period of the year. The number of pupils has gone on increasing despite large emigration. In Ulster the schools are mixed schools, but in Munster, Connaught, and even Leinster rarely so. Ulster has 2,523 schools, only 500 of which are exclusively Protestant or Roman Catholic. In all Ireland, out of 8,806 schools, 3,925 exhibit a mixed attendance; 2,522 of the unmixed schools are in Roman Catholic hands. The system is already practically denominational in the south and west, and in a great part of the eastern district of the country. The pupils in unmixed schools number 400,735. Of the total amount received by the teaching staff of the schools for 1870 only 17.7 per cent. was the result of local contributions and 82.3 per cent. was defrayed by the public grant. The total sum paid was 342,107*l.* The total number of pupils in the model schools was 17,700. Of these 6,004 were of the Established Church, 5,532 were Roman Catholics, 4,917 Presbyterians, and 1,247 belonged to other persuasions. There does not seem to have been any decline in the numbers attending of any of the religions in 1870.

SOCIETY OF ARTS MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.—These are the only open examinations within reach of the ordinary musical student. That in the Theory of Music is conducted by Mr. John Hullah; that in Elementary Musical Composition by Mr. G. A. Macfarren. Tonic Solfa pupils have during the past five years obtained nine out of the ten prizes granted by Mr. Hullah, and this is the more remarkable as the examination is conducted strictly according to the old notation and nomenclature, Mr. Hullah himself making no secret of his disbelief in the soundness of the Tonic Solfa method. The aggregate number of certificates granted of all kinds granted by Mr. Hullah during the last five years is 328, and 206 of these have gone to Tonic Solfa pupils. The lists just published show that they have this year taken both prizes, and fifty out of the seventy-three certificates awarded. Three years ago the Society of Arts were induced by the Tonic-Solfaists—on the understanding that the latter should bear all the extra expenses—to take up Mr. Macfarren's examination in musical composition. This has proved a success, 142 certificates having been granted, and four prizes. Of the pupils trained in Tonic Solfa, works on harmony have received three, and of the certificates, 113. The first prize this year is taken by a disciple of the ordinary notation, and Tonic Solfaists take fifty out of the fifty-five certificates.

THE TICHBORNE TRIAL.—Before the Solicitor-General yesterday resumed the cross-examination of the claimant to the Tichborne Baronetcy, Mr. Serjeant Ballantine made an important application to the court. He said that as it would be perfectly impossible to complete the plaintiff's case and to open the defence by the 10th of August, the last

day on which the court can legally sit before the long vacation, he would suggest an adjournment of the case about the 10th of July. In this suggestion, which will in all probability be acceded to, the Solicitor-General concurred, and the foreman of the jury hinted that it would be convenient to reassemble about November 7. Mr. Radcliffe then rose in the body of the court, and stated that he wished to address his lordship on the ground that he was an "injured party." Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, however, objected, and the judge told Mr. Radcliffe that he had no *locus standi*. The claimant's cross-examination opened up a very interesting phase of the case. He was questioned as to his knowledge of Arthur Orton, the son of a butcher at Wapping, and whose name has been frequently mentioned in connection with the plaintiff's identity. The claimant positively denied that he was Arthur Orton, and narrated various incidents of his acquaintance with that person. He denied that he had changed the colour of his hair since the commencement of the trial. The Chili Commission was then put in by the Solicitor-General, and a long correspondence was read. The Prince and Princess of Wales were in court during the last hour of hearing.

DEATH OF MR. GROTE, THE HISTORIAN.—Mr. George Grote, whose serious illness was announced a week or two since, died on Saturday morning at his residence in Savile-row, aged seventy-seven. An obituary notice in the *Times* states that Mr. Grote was descended from a family of German extraction, and was grandson of a London banker, who, in conjunction with George Prescott, founded the house which was well-known as Prescott, Grote, and Co. He was born in 1794, at Beckenham, in Kent, and having been educated at the Charter House, entered his father's counting-house in the sixteenth year of his age. He devoted his leisure hours to the study of the classics, became a profound Greek scholar, and when quite a young man made it one of the objects of his life to write a History of Greece. It was already known in 1823 that the young banker had begun the preparations for his work, which lasted till the period of the first Reform Bill, when they were interrupted for a time. That interruption was caused by the triumph of Whig principles in Lord Grey's Government, for Mr. Grote was a Whig and something more. He was the philosophic Radical of those days. Before the triumph of reform he had combated the views of Sir James Macintosh in a pamphlet, had written an essay on the Essentials of Parliamentary Reform, and was in all respects and on all questions a very advanced Liberal. After the passing of the Reform Bill Mr. Grote was returned for the City of London in 1832, a seat which he retained till 1841. From that time he gave himself up chiefly to literary pursuits. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, and on him devolved most of the labour of managing its affairs. He was also a trustee of the British Museum. Two years ago Mr. Gladstone offered Mr. Grote a peerage, which he declined, observing that, however flattered he might feel at the offer of the Premier, he felt bound to spend all the time at his disposal in the discharge of his duties as Trustee of the British Museum and Vice-Chancellor of the University of London. Mr. Grote was a member of the French Institute, and also of many foreign academies and learned societies. In 1820 he was married to Miss Harriet Lewin, the second daughter of a Kentish gentleman. By this lady, who is well-known by her "*Life of Ary Scheffer*" and other works, and who survives him, he has left no issue.

Gleanings.

Paradoxical as it may seem, people who are inclined to be fat are often the least inclined to be so.

An interesting work may shortly be looked for from the pen of Mr. D-r-n, entitled, "*Tales of our Grandfathers*."

"Mamma," said a little boy who had been sent to dry a towel before the fire, "is it done when it's brown?"

"Young England" sends us the following:—A pew or aisle (puerile) notion—Letting seats by auction.

A clerical joke at the expense of a brother of the cloth is going the rounds. It said that a clergyman who preached in a prison, a Sunday or two since, began his discourse in his traditional way by saying, "I am glad, my friends, to see so many of you here this morning."

"I suppose," said a quack, while feeling the pulse of a patient who had reluctantly submitted to solicit his advice, "I suppose you think me a bit of a humbug?" "Sir," gravely replied the sick man, "I was not aware until now that you could so readily discover a man's thoughts by feeling his pulse."

A gentleman visiting a school had a book put into his hand for the purpose of examining a class. The word "inheritance" occurring in the verse, the querist interrogated one of the youngsters as follows:—"What is an inheritance?"—"Patrimony." "What is patrimony?"—"Something left by a father." "What would you call it if left by a mother?"—"Matrimony."

GAINING KNOWLEDGE.—An American paper mentions the case of an Irish teamster employed at a coal wharf in Richmond, who was threatened with dismissal by his employer on the ground of stupidity and perfect inability to learn anything. Pat protested that he had learned something in that service, and on being challenged to state it, replied,

"Shure I have learnt that 18 cwt. makes a ton, bedad!" He kept his place, and got an increase of pay.

NOT TO BE DISCONCERTED.—A good story is told of a late college president near Boston. On one occasion the students substituted a large dictionary in place of the Bible at the morning devotions. On opening the book he at once saw the situation; but he said nothing, and proceeded to the prayer, which he prolonged for an hour. The students got out of all patience; but they appreciated the sly remark of the venerable president, on his retiring, that he "found all the words he needed in the volume they had placed on his desk."

THE BERLIN DAMSELS AND THE CHIGNON QUESTION.—The other day, the sixty girls that are to welcome the returning army at the Brandenburg Gate had a meeting at the Town Hall, in which the question of their attire was definitely settled. It is to be that of Margaret in Kaulbach's sketch of her first meeting with Faust. Two plaits of their own hair hanging down the back are indispensable. They are pledged mutually and to the municipal authorities on no account to use false hair. It is an attempt definitively to get rid of the chignon, which will probably prove successful; for they have resolved—the one encouraging the other—after once having risked it, to keep to the plaits. Sixty wealthy young ladies may do much—perhaps as much as an Empress. Their meeting-place on the day of the entry will be Blücher House, near the Brandenburg Gate, where Princess Blücher entertains them at lunch.—*Daily News Berlin Correspondent.*

NOTICE.—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

DEATHS.

COLEMAN.—June 11, Henry Freeman Coleman, Esq., of Evington Hall, Leicestershire, in the 82nd year of his age.
WALCOT.—June 17, at 4, Gayfield-place, Edinburgh, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, Jane Lindsay, eldest surviving daughter of John and Jane Walcot, aged 18 years.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, June 14.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£40,134,680	Government Debt	£11,015,104
		Other Securities	3,984,906
		Gold Coin & Bullion	25,134,680
		Silver Bullion	
	£40,134,680		£40,134,680

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	(inc. dead weight annuity)	£12,971,213
Reserve	3,103,735	Other Securities	16,520,117	
Public Deposits	10,189,688	Notes	15,418,120	
Other Deposits	18,347,116	Gold & Silver Coin	790,274	
Seven Day and other Bills	506,185			
	£46,699,724		£46,699,724	

June 15, 1871.

GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

BREAKFAST.—EPPE'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Eppe has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"James Eppe & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Also, makers of Eppe's Cacaoine, a very thin beverage for evening use.

HOW TO DYE.—Silk, Wool, Feathers, Ribbons, &c., in ten minutes, without soiling the hands. Use Judson's Simple Dyes, eighteen colours, 6d. each, with full instructions supplied. Of all chemists. *The Family Herald*, 3rd September, says, "A very slight acquaintance with Judson's dyes will render their application clear to all."

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.—This celebrated and most delicious old mellow spirit is the very cream of Irish Whiskies, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy. Note the words "Kinahan's LL Whisky" on seal, label, and cork. Wholesale Depot, 6A, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-street, W.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—HEALTH'S FOUNTAIN.—It cannot surely be necessary to remind any intelligent reader that the purity of the blood determines every invalid's health and vigour. Holloway's medicine searches out the slightest taint in the vital fluid, and neutralises or expels it, so that the circulation supports the system in place of sowing the seeds of decay. When epidemics are advancing, and disease is steadily on the increase, it behoves every one to have a restorative like these Pills, ready to set right any irregularity in stomach, liver, bowels, or kidneys. Holloway's treatment is especially suitable for the young, delicate, and nervous, who are most susceptible of any prevailing sickness, and whom violent measures would endanger little less than the epidemic.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, June 19.

The show of English wheat on the stands was small this morning, but we have received abundant supplies from abroad of all descriptions of grain during the past week. With fine weather the demand was again restricted, and a decline of 1s. per qr. was submitted to by factors on English wheat. For foreign wheat we had only a retail inquiry, and sales proceeded slowly at a similar decline. Flour was 1s. per sack and 6d. per barrel lower. Peas and beans were unaltered in value. Barley of all descriptions was the turn lower. Indian corn being in larger supply sold at 6d. per quarter less money. Of oats we have further heavy arrivals,

which caused a decline of 6d. to 1s. per quarter from the currencies of this day week. Cargoes on the coast are small in number. Further arrivals are expected, and wheat must be quoted 1s. per quarter lower.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—		Per Qr.	PEAS—		Per Qr.
	s.	d.		s.	d.
Essex and Kent, red	—	to —	Grey	37	to 40
Ditto new	51	to 57	Maple	43	to 46
White	—	—	White	38	to 42
"new	56	to 61	Boilers	38	to 42
Foreign red	52	to 56	Foreign	38	to 40
"white	55	to 58			
BARLEY—					
English malting	31	to 34	Rye	36	to 38
Chevalier	36	to 42			
Distilling	35	to 39	OATS—		
Foreign	34	to 37	English Feed	24	to 26
			"potato	27	to 33
MALT—					
Pale	—	—	"potato	—	—
Chevalier	—	—	Irish Black	20	to 22
Brown	49	to 55	"White	21	to 25
			Foreign feed	—	—
BEANS—					
Ticks	37	to 39	FLOUR—		
Harrow	40	to 44	Town made	47	to 50
Small	—	—	Best country	—	—
Egyptian	37	to 38	households	40	to 43
			Norfolk & Suffolk	38	to 39

BREAD, Saturday, June 17.—The prices in the Metropolitan are, for Wheatens Bread, per 4 lbs. loaf, 7d. to 8d.; Household Bread, 6d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, June 19.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 14,869 head. In the corresponding week in 1870 we received 8,168; in 1869, 12,488; in 1868, 7,410; and in 1867, 10,779 head. The cattle trade to-day has been characterised by an increased amount of firmness. The supplies of beasts have been moderate from our own grazing districts, in fair condition, and the receipts from abroad have been good, so far as numbers are concerned. The quality of the Spanish stock has been satisfactory. For all breeds the trade has been firm, and full prices have been realised. The extreme quotation for the best Scots and crosses has been 5s. 8d. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received about 1,650 Scots and crosses; from other parts of England about 350 various breeds; from Scotland 115 Scots and crosses. The market has been extensively supplied with sheep. A full average business has been transacted, and 2d. per 8lbs. more money has been obtained. For the best Downs and half-breds 6s. to 6s. 2d. per 8lbs. Lambs have been in limited request, at from 6s. to 7s. per 8lbs. For calves the demand has been to a moderate extent, at previous quotations. Pigs have been quiet, on former terms.

Per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	3	6	to	4	6	Pr. coarse woolled	5	6	5	10
Second quality	4	8	to	5	0	Prime Southdown	6	0	6	2
Prime large oxen	5	0	5	4		Lge. coarse calves	3	8	4	4
Prime Scots	5	6	5	8		Prime small	5	0	5	6
Coarse inf. sheep	3	10	4	2		Large hogs	3	6	4	0
Second quality	4	2	5	0		Neat sm. porkers	4	2	4	8

Lamb, 6s. to 7s. 0d., and Quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 26s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, June 19.—There were only limited supplies of meat on sale here to-day. Trade was more active, and prices were slightly improved. The import into London last week consisted of 115 packages from Boulogne, and 406 from Hamburg.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
Inferior beef	3	6	to	4	0	Middling do.	5	4	to	5	8
Middling do.	4	4	to	4	8	Prime do.	6	0	to	6	4
Prime large do.	4	10	to	5	2	Large pork	3	4	to	3	8
Prime small do.	5	4	to	5	6	Small do.	3	8	to	4	4
Veal	4	8	to	5	4	Lamb	6	4	to	7	0
Inferior Mutton	4	0	to	5	0						

PROVISIONS, Monday, June 19.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 396 firkins butter and 3,642 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 23,177 packages butter, and 1,682 bales bacon. The change in the weather, rain with heat, has caused a decline in foreign butter of fully 4s. to 8s. per cwt.; best Dutch 10s. to 10s. The bacon market ruled firm, and prices of Irish were advanced 1s. to 2s. per cwt. at the close of the week: no change in Hamburg meat.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Friday, June 16.—Business has been of a fluctuating character during the past week, and prices have somewhat declined. Outdoor rough produce is now sufficient for most requirements, and is of good quality. Strawberries are now becoming general from the open ground, but promise a light crop. New potatoes are now arriving in great abundance from the Channel Islands and Cherbourg, and prices are ruling rather low.

HOPS.—BOROUGH, Monday, June 19.—During the past week prices have been well maintained; but operations have been more limited than the bad character of the reports would justify. The bine is suffering from renewed attacks of vermin, and the general opinion is it must lapse into blight. The Bavarian and Bohemian plantations are now severely infected with fly, and their markets are consequently very active, with considerable advance in values. There is no alteration in the New York market. Mid and East Kents, 2l. 16s., 4l. 4s., to 7l. 7s.; Weald of Kent, 2l. 16s., 3l. 15s., to 4l. 10s.; Sussex, 2l. 10s., 3l. 5s., to 4l.; Farnham and country, 3l. 15s., 4l. 15s., to 5l. 12s.; Olds, 1l., 1l. 1s., to 1l. 15s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, June 19.—Fair supplies have been on sale. The trade has been quiet at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 131 boxes Genoa, 1,157 Cadiz, and 142 packages Dunkirk. Flukes old, 55s. to 90s. per ton; Regents, 45s. to 70s. per ton; Rocks, 45s. to 85s. per ton; Jerseys new, 9s. to 12s. per cwt.; Kidneys, 11s. to 16s. per cwt.

SEED, Monday, June 19.—There was nothing passing in agricultural seeds to alter the value of any. American cloverseed is the only sort likely to attract attention, and at a little less money buyers could be found for the best qualities. White mustardseed sold in small lots on former terms; fine brown would command full rates, but there was none offering. English canaryseed sold steadily at full prices; foreign samples were held on former terms. Foreign tares were taken off at moderate prices for feeding purposes.

WOOL, Monday, June 19.—A firm tone has pervaded the wool market; business has not been extensive, but had holders been willing to accept a trifle less money, there is no

doubt that some considerable transactions would have been effected; prices have been well maintained.

OIL, Monday, June 19.—Linseed oil has changed hands quietly, at about late rates. Rape has met a slow sale. Other oils have been in limited request.

TALLOW, Monday, June 19.—The market has been firm. Y.C., 43s. 6d. and 43s. 9d. per cwt. on the spot. Town tallow, 43s. 6d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, June 19.—Market without alteration from last day's rates; mostly steamers for sale. Hettou's Wallsend, 18s.; Hettou's South, 17s. 9d.; Hettou's Russels 15s. 9d.; Haswell, 18s.; Tunstall, 16s.; Hartley's, 16s. 6d. Tees, 17s. 9d.. Ships fresh arrived, 18. Ships at sea, 20.

Advertisements.

A LADY of great experience desires a SITUATION as ASSISTANT to a Mother in the TRAINING and Management of YOUNG CHILDREN. Would undertake the entire charge if required. Has filled a similar situation for some years.—Address, A. B., Post-office, Rodborough, near Stroud, Gloucestershire.

TEMPORARY CHURCH, or SCHOOL-ROOM, at ADDISCOMBE.—TO BE LET or SOLD, in the Havelock-road. It contains every requisite for Divine Service, for which purpose it has been used, with Sittings for 500 persons. The building, which is 101 feet by 34 feet, is most substantially built by the East India Company, and capable of being enlarged, the freehold measuring 175 feet by an average breadth of 69 feet.—Apply to Mr. R. Evans, No. 3, Pleen Cottage, White Horse-road, West Croydon.

ABOLITION of UNIVERSITY TESTS.

At a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL, held June 19th, 1871, it was

RESOLVED:—

1. That the Committee heartily congratulates the friends of religious equality on the fact that the Royal Assent, given on the 16th inst. to the "Act to alter the Law respecting religious Tests in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, and in the Halls and Colleges of those Universities," has crowned with success their long-continued exertions to render the advantages afforded by the national Universities available for the entire nation, without regard to ecclesiastical distinctions.

2. That the Committee tenders its warmest thanks to JAS. HEYWOOD, Esq.; J. G. DONSON, Esq., M.P.; the Right Hon. G. J. GOSCHEN, M.P.; the Right Hon. E. P. BOUVIER, M.P.; H. FAWCETT, Esq., M.P.; and Sir J. D. COLERIDGE, M.P., who, by their several proposals, in successive Parliaments, have contributed to effect a change, not only demanded in the name of justice, but calculated to advance the interests of learning and to promote unity of feeling among the people. More especially, the Committee desires to put on record its high appreciation of the courage and the fidelity with which many members of the Universities have co-operated with Nonconformists in seeking to induce the Legislature to pass the measure which has now become law.

3. That the Committee is encouraged to believe that the principle upon which the measure is based will, hereafter, be applied to the abolition of clerical fellowships, and of other invidious restrictions, or privileges, still existing in the Universities and Colleges, as well as in connection with the Public Schools and other educational foundations of a national character.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street.

HARROW and WINCHESTER SCHOOL STATUTES.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL, held June 19, 1871, it was

RESOLVED:—

That this Committee has learned with surprise and with regret that the Commissioners appointed under the Public Schools Act of 1868, in framing statutes for determining the constitution of the new governing bodies of Harrow and Winchester Schools, have expressly excluded all but members of the Church of England from such bodies. That it earnestly trusts that both Her Majesty's Government and the House of Commons will resist a provision so objectionable in itself and so inconsistent with the principle of religious equality embodied in the University Tests Abolition Bill, which has just become law.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street.

NONCONFORMIST GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BISHOPS STORTFORD.

Head Master—Rev. R. ALLIOTT (late of Trinity College, Cambridge).

Terms:—From 35 to 45 Guineas. No extras but Drawing and Music.

Examiners—The Syndicate of the University of Cambridge.

Patronised by the CROWN PRINCESS of PRUSSIA the SULTAN of TURKEY, and the NAWAB NAZIM of BENGAL.

THE SHAKESPEARE £4 4s.

EVERY DESCRIPTION ON VIEW.

Wheeler and Wilson,	Shakespeare, lock-stitch,
Grover and Baker,	Agonistic,
Howe, Elias (jun.),	Cleopatra,
Weed,	Tom Hood,
Willeox and Gibbs,	Weir,
Excelsior,	Wanser,
Britannia,	Guelph,
Belgravia,	Queen Mab,
La Silencieuse,	Princess of Wales,
Alexandra,	Royal Anchor,
Imperial, &c.	American, &c.

SMITH and CO., having no interest in selling any particular Machine, are enabled to recommend impartially the one best suited for the work to be done, and offer this GUARANTEE to their Customers:—Any Machine sold by them may be EXCHANGED after one month's trial, for any other kind, without charge for use.

SMITH & CO., 4, Charles-street, Soho, W.
(Four doors from Oxford-street.)

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, EAST COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT.

At a well-attended Meeting of the Church and Congregation, held on the 22nd of May, the following Resolution, proposed by the pastor, the Rev. F. H. Williams, and seconded by Captain Hendey, one of the deacons, was carried unanimously and with applause, viz.:—

"That efforts be forthwith made to collect the funds necessary for re-pewing the chapel, building a vestry and lavatory, and renovating the schoolroom; that the re-pewing be not proceeded with till three-fourths of the money required have been raised, but that the vestry, lavatory, and schoolroom be commenced at once."

The Church and Congregation will do their utmost in carrying out this resolution, but they cannot accomplish the whole without assistance. The help of kind friends at a distance is therefore earnestly solicited.

The whole cost of the contemplated improvements may be set down as from £180 to £200, and towards this amount the sum of £10 has been contributed by a Resident Magistrate, and Member of the Church of England, Roscow Cole Shelden, Esq., J.P. of Millfield, East Cowes; and Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., has also kindly contributed £10. Mr. Shelden has offered a second subscription of £10, if it should be required. The work having been undertaken in a spirit of faith and prayer, it is believed that this second £10 will not be needed from Mr. Shelden, but that He, whose are the silver and the gold, will open the hearts of His people to contribute of the substance with which He has blessed them to this very desirable work, so that there will be no lack of funds.

The following may be mentioned as special reasons for efforts being made that Congregationalism should be well represented in the chapel at East Cowes, viz.:—That it is in the immediate vicinity of Her Majesty's Marine Residence, Osborne House; that the chapel is close to the floating-bridge between East and West Cowes, and thus prominently in view of the numerous visitors who come to East Cowes to see what they can of Osborne, and to visit Her Majesty's Parish Church of Whippingham. The Queen has to drive close by the chapel whenever she crosses the floating-bridge, which is frequent during her residence at Osborne House.

The following are additional circumstances of interest, viz.:—that the chapel is the first place of worship erected in East Cowes, the church—of which Her Majesty (as Princess Victoria) and her late mother laid the foundation-stone—not having been built until five or six years after the erection of the chapel; that the Rev. T. Binney took part in the formation of the church and the ordination of the first Pastor in 1829; that the Rev. J. Denham Smith was formerly in the business establishment of one of the late deacons of the church, that he laboured in the Sunday-school, and went from East Cowes to enter upon his important Evangelistic work; and, further, that "Slatwoods," the birthplace of the renowned Dr. Arnold, of Rugby School, is in East Cowes.

If any of the readers of the *Nonconformist* would like to share in the honour of carrying out this good work, their Contributions would be very thankfully received and acknowledged, either publicly in this paper, or by private letter, as may be preferred.

Some excellent Photographs of the Chapel have been recently taken, and it is intended to ask every Contributor of 5s. to accept a view of the exterior and interior of the chapel, carte-de-visite size; every Contributor of 10s., stereoscopic views of the chapel; and every Contributor of a sovereign, views of the chapel on a larger scale and a stereoscopic slide of "Slatwoods"; and when the alterations are completed, each Contributor of the above amounts will be asked to accept companion photographs, showing the altered state of things.

Subscriptions and Communications will be gladly received by the Pastor, F. H. Williams, addressed, Laurel-villa, East Cowes Park, Isle of Wight.

19th June, 1871.

THE Rev. F. H. WILLIAMS, Congregational Minister of East Cowes, Isle of Wight, is desirous of making arrangements for an EXCHANGE OF PULPITS and HOUSES with a brother Minister for the month of SEPTEMBER NEXT. Further particulars by letter.

AT a Meeting of the Committee of Deputies of the several Congregations of Protestant Dissenters of the three Denominations, Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist, in and within twelve miles of London, appointed to their civil rights, held on the 15th June, 1871.

W. H. MICHAEL, Esq., in the Chair.

HARROW SCHOOL.

A print of the Statute for determining and establishing the constitution of the new Governing body of Harrow School, approved by the Special Commissioners appointed under the Public Schools Act, 1868, on 16th May last, was laid before Committee.

Attention was called to the 2nd Clause, which provides that all members of the Governing body must in future be members of the Church of England.

RESOLVED.—That the Committee protest against this Clause on the following, amongst other grounds:

- 1.—That no such restriction appears in the Will of John Lyon, the founder of the school, or in the Statutes made thereunder.
- 2.—That such restriction has not been embodied in the Statute for establishing the Governing body of Rugby School, which was approved by the said Commissioners on the same day.
- 3.—That such a restriction is not in accordance with the liberal spirit which of late years has been manifested by Parliament in dealing with Universities and other Institutions for the advancement of learning.
- 4.—That it is unjust and most offensive to large bodies of the people who, by such a restriction, will be cut off entirely from having any voice in the government of this important public school.

W. H. MICHAEL, Chairman.
C. SHEPHEARD, Secretary.

78, Coleman-street.

HACKNEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, and Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Institution, will be held on WEDNESDAY NEXT, 28th June, in the ADELPHI CHAPEL, HACKNEY-ROAD.

An Address on "Conversion and its Counterfeits" will be delivered by one of the Students, to whom the "First Home's Jubilee Prize" has been awarded; after which the Report will be read, and the Meeting addressed by several Ministers and other Friends.

The Chair will be taken by J. G. STAPELTON, Esq., one of the Treasurers, at Seven o'clock precisely.

J. E. RICHARDS, Secretary.

THE JUBILEE YEAR

The Rev. THOMAS TOLLER'S
MINISTRY at KETTERING.

The Independent Church and Congregation at Kettering, over which the Rev. Thomas Toller has been Pastor for fifty years, have come to the unanimous resolution to present him with a TESTIMONIAL in this his Jubilee Year, which it is thought should take the form of a free-will offering in money.

As, no doubt, many of Mr. Toller's friends and former hearers, now living at a distance, may be desirous of joining in this mark of esteem, the Committee who have been appointed to carry out the object have thought it due to non-resident friends that they should be made acquainted with the determination of the Church and Congregation.

It is intended to present the TESTIMONIAL on the 19th July next. The Rev. Thomas Binney has kindly promised to preach at Two p.m., and at Five o'clock a Public Meeting will be held for the presentation of the Testimonial.

Contributions may be forwarded to either of the following Gentlemen:—

Mr. WADDINGTON, }
Mr. COCKBURN, } Deacons.
Mr. COCKER, }
Mr. GOOSEY, }

Or to Mr. John Wallis, the Treasurer.

NEW COLLEGE, LONDON.

THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at the COLLEGE, FINCHLEY NEW-ROAD, ST. JOHN'S WOOD, on FRIDAY EVENING, June 23. The Chair will be taken at Six o'clock by the Rev. THOS. BINNEY. Mr. C. E. B. REED, M.A., Pye-Smith Scholar, will read an Essay on "John Howe: his Character and Times." The usual business of the Annual Meeting will be transacted, together with the Distribution of the Certificates of Honour obtained in the Examinations, and the Presentation of Books from the Selwyn Fund to Students leaving the College. Several Ministers and Gentlemen are expected to address the Meeting. The attendance of Subscribers and Friends of the College is respectfully invited.

W. FARRER, LL.B., Secretary.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS, HORNSEY RISE, near HIGHGATE.

Office: 73, Cheapside, E.C.

On THURSDAY, July 6, 1871, at Two o'clock, there will be a DEJEUNER in the DINING-HALL of the ORPHANAGE, at which the Right Honourable the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, K.G., will preside.

The Right Honourable Lord Ebury, P.C., and those whose names follow, are expected to be present:—Sir Francis Lyett, Rev. Daniel Wilson, M.A., the Vicar of Islington; Rev. Reginald Gunner, Vicar of the district; Rev. J. H. Barnard, Rev. L. D. Bevan, LL.B., Rev. Thomas Binney, Rev. S. H. Booth, Rev. W. B. Carpenter, M.A., Rev. W. B. Chambers, M.A., Rev. W. Fleming, M.A., Rev. J. Fleming, Rev. Donald Fraser, Rev. John Lees, M.A., Rev. John Nunn, Basil Woodd Smith, Esq., J.P., Rev. Francis Tucker, B.A., Rev. John Walton, Rev. Josiah Viney, John Kemp Welch, Esq., V.P., J.P., &c., &c.

It is respectfully suggested, in order to enable Ladies and Gentlemen to visit the cottages, that they should assemble at half-past One o'clock.

Tickets, price Five shillings, may be obtained of Mr. Chadwick, Prospect House, Holloway-road; Mr. Samuel Ironmonger, Upper-street and Holloway; Mr. Jones, Manor-place, Holloway-road; Mr. Lovell, pianoforte maker, Holloway-road; Mr. Watkins, grocer, North-hill, Highgate; Mr. Broad, chemist, Hornsey-rise; Messrs. Warren Hall and Co., 88, Camden-road; the Matron, at the Orphanage; and at the Office of the Charity, 73, Cheapside.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Sec.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—

RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

SECOND MASTER—

J. H. Taylor, Esq., M.A., Queen's Coll., Oxford; Double First in Moderations, and 2nd Class in the Final Classical School; Scholar (B.A.) of Trin. Coll. Camb., 14th in 1st Class in Classical Tripos, and 1st Chancellor's Medallist, 1868.

ASSISTANT MASTERS—

A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prizeman in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., London.

JAMES A. H. MURRAY, Esq., F.E.I.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.

JAMES NETTLESHIP, Esq., B.A., Scholar and Prizeman of Christ's Coll., Camb.; 2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1866.

For Prospectuses and further information apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

INDEPENDENT COLLEGE, TAUNTON.

Principal—Rev. W. H. GRIFFITH, M.A. (Lond. U.). PUPILS PREPARED FOR MATRICULATION at LONDON UNIVERSITY, or for Commercial Pursuits.

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